

THE OXFORD PAPER

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10p



Which town is the 'real deal'?

NEWS Plus & Life

Costume student's designs on fame

NEWS Plus & Life

Weekly leisure guide for in & around Oxford



"By investing into day centres that allow people to lead active lives, have a social life and access services, they are less likely to call upon more costly services"

Groups set to receive £300,000 funding but more is needed to survive

'INVEST IN DAY CENTRES TO STOP HIGHER COSTS LATER'

By Astrid Johnson, Reporter

MOVING IN day centres which allow people to stay active could help prevent more expensive emergency services.

That is according to one organisation which runs 10 day centres open, many of which are eight-hour day long, to help balance day centres across Oxfordshire.

are not to benefit from more than £200,000 of funding from the county as a new system of daycentres is gradually adopted. But for many centres the answer is not far for example.

Oxfordshire County Council says the majority of centres to benefit will receive their share of the cash from September.

Abingdon Town Councillor Dennis Bowring, who is chairing a business plan for the South Abingdon children's centre to stay open, has been campaigning to keep the centre working since its closure.

He said: "The council has been told the centre costs the county £60,000 per year and Mr Bowring says they are looking

at organisations to partner with and those the space and continue their services going.

He said: "The main problem is that there is not support beyond the basic amount of premises."

He said the council had been told the centre runs the risk for the county £100,000 per year and Mr Bowring says they are looking

at other options because

"it's about priorities and not only is it a compassionate priority, it needs to be to remain open to prevent services that help people lead healthy, independent lives and not become dependent on higher cost services."

Continues on page 3

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NEWS

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Newspaper House, 44 Hawkesworth, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 7HR

Advertising - 01235 311250 enquiries@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Advertising Manager Julian Rehberg - 01235 311250

Newsdesk - 01235 311951 newsdesk@thethirdandpaper.co.ukDistribution & Subscriptions - 01235 311953 customers@thethirdandpaper.co.ukAccounts - 01235 316911 accounts@thethirdandpaper.co.ukProduction - 01235 316934 edit@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Meet the team who bring you the news

Group Editors

Karen Neville - 01235 316931 karen@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Chief Reporter

Adrian Price - 01235 316903 adrian@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Reporters

George Welch - 01235 514912 george@thethirdandpaper.co.ukSarah McGregor - 01235 314949 sarah@thethirdandpaper.co.ukGlyn Ainslie - 01235 316932 glyn@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Feature Writers

Alex Jones - 01235 316938/48/49/50/51 alex@thethirdandpaper.co.uk

Letters to The Editor

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Regional Weather

THURSDAY Scattered cloud will thicken up across much of the region by midday, though it is expected to stay dry for most, with the odd shower still expected. Maximum Temperature 14C.

OUTLOOK FOR FRIDAY TO SUNDAY Largely cloudy on Good Friday with outbreaks of rain in the afternoon. Then sunnier and isolated showers on Saturday, easing in the east. Generally cloudy on Sunday but largely dry.

WEEKEND SUMMARY

FRIDAY

DAY 13°C
NIGHT 7°C

SATURDAY

DAY 14°C
NIGHT 4°C

SUNDAY

DAY 14°C
NIGHT 4°C

An aerial view of the new 1,800-space car park at Didcot station

1,800 vehicles set for £20m station car park

George Welch - Reporter

WORK on a 1,800-space multi-storey car park at Didcot railway station is under way.

The project, which will take around 12 months to complete, will cost £20m and will be the largest of its kind in the area, with the number of parking spaces to rise from 1,000 to 1,800.

Part-funded by the Gloucestershire Local Enterprise Partnership, the work, which will take place at the Piccadilly Road car park, is being funded through phases.

Phase one, during next year, will see a new temporary undercover half of the car park, while phase 2 from this summer

to summer 2014 will include the building of the new multi-storey car park.

The east end of the car park will remain open during phase 1.

GWL regional development manager Tim Phipps said that Didcot railway would be one of three stations on the country's network.

Mr Phipps said: "Local demand for spaces is very high, so a new undercover car park, comprising one new undercover space, will provide a better travelling experience for all those who use the station both now and into the future."

Network Rail is also constructing a new covered entrance of the west end of the station. When completed, the entrance will provide passengers with

a direct, covered walkway route from Piccadilly Road to the station. GWL said it is still developing alternative parking arrangements to minimise the loss of parking spaces while work is being carried out.

Three car parks currently serve the station. Piccadilly Road with 1,000 spaces, home to the station, 1,000 Didcot East and 1,000 at Didcot West, along with 44 spaces.

From October this year, new linking Kippax Lane will be built and provide over a fifth more seats per train, more tables in standard class, armchairs, a digital news service system and kitchens.

In early 2014 new electric and suburban trains will operate between Paddington and Didcot Parkway.

Severe fire tackled by 50 fighters

FIFTY firefighters battled a blaze at a hardware shop which spread through the ground and first floors.

The Didcot Fire and Rescue Service tackled the fire at the building on the High Street, Marlowes, at 11.30pm on Friday April 5.

Firefighters from Didcotshire, Readingshire and Millets Keynes Fire attended with eight fire engines, a hydraulic platform, command vehicle and incident support unit.

Firefighters used jets to spray the fire spreading to adjoining properties.

There were no casualties.

The incident is being jointly investigated by specialist fire crews Didcot and Thameshire Police. Incident commander Inspector Tony Ainslie said: "It was a very large and very intense fire. Firefighters from across the county came together as a team and everybody put in a great deal of effort."



Police: GMP

NEWS



Vision for state-of the art business campus revealed

COMPUTER generated images and an animation by Balfour Beatty have been revealed to the public for the first time of a business park that was previously 'beyond its last' gathering pace.

From Business Park, near Walsgrave, in Solihull, the 3D view area, formerly known as Blue Technology Park, was given the green light for its reuse by the local authority's planning committee in December 2012. Last year the new owners, Group Business Park Limited, demolished redundant buildings and invested in infrastructure as preparation for the development, alongside a 11.5m redevelopment of Balsall Heath Barn road centre.

The vision of Group Business Park Ltd, David Hill, and his company Balsall Heath Park, where about 300 people work, was 'step up to the plate' when his company bought it for an estimated £10m in December 2012.

But the park has an optimistic future, with its visionaries helping to expand the site.

Facilities will range from start-up workshops units to bespoke design studios for technology businesses which could power to more than 1,000 jobs for Walsgrave and Green.

Last year Richard Lupton, Mr Hill's adviser, said the project could cost £100m.

David Williams, partner of Balsall Heath Park, specifies the park will 'Please Everyone'. 'The delivered business park will be essential to provide new employment and the housing developments in this area.'

Tim Pace, of Parker Pease said: 'The first buildings will be started but not ready for occupation until early in 2014, breaching a mid-term deadline of 2013 to the project.'

So far, 2000 through similar to their information visit, 'target can

achieve

Paralympian's inspiration for GCSE pupils

A Paralympian and world racing champion has visited a Solihull school to help inspire pupils before their exams, careers and evaluate them for the world of work.

A gold medalist at the London 2012 Paralympics Games and two-time world champion Paralympic Biathlete, was in Charnock Fields School, Walsgrave, to support GCSE students in their studies and inspire them. Pupils on Friday for an event hosted by the pupils the Enterprise Avenue Partnership.

This network is a mutual initiative that is being delivered across the region by Charnock Fields' local Enterprise Partnership (ChalEPP) and aims to inspire and prepare a new generation for the world of work.

Paralympic athlete and GCSE student, Jessica Ennis-Hill, helped pupils to evaluate their work experience and to evaluate them before they embark on their GCSEs.

Commenting on her visit to the school, Jessica said: 'I am grateful to the Walsgrave School for having me in to speak to the year 11 students. I am very proud of what I have achieved and I am an expert in my education and I wanted to share some of my experiences of overcoming challenges and always persevering during my time in sport.'

During the event the most senior-level business, Whitley St. George and Sports Ensuite, who talked to the



Anne O'Brien, founder of LCBM, taking part in the Enterprise Avenue Partnership. From left to right: Jessica Ennis-Hill, chairman of Solent Academy Trust; Dr Annabel Kay, Walsgrave Headteacher; Paralympic Biathlon-Millie, Jess; and Jonathan Popham, managing director of Whitley St. George and Sports Ensuite.

students about work experience and future career opportunities.

Julian Weston, managing director of Whitley St. George, said: 'Caring for and supporting the community we live in is very important to us. We are committed to giving back and believe that the more that our students participate in and support their local community, the more successful they will be.'

Receiving GCSE students to greater work success is a fan-

tastic initiative that we were very pleased to play a part in.'

John Scott, chairman of Sports Ensuite Selections, said: 'Our business likes to encourage the pursuit of excellence whether it is achieved through sport, education or work. We were proud to learn from Jessica that the Paralympic Friends inspired us all as we learned more about her outstanding achievements.'

Nigel Smith, chairman of

Infrastructure fears as homes approved

Matthew Davies, Reporter

A THREE-BEDROOM house will finally be built near Walsgrave and concerns about whether the local infrastructure will be able to cope.

Developers have signed a legal agreement with West Midlands District Council for the site between Dene Park and Dene Road, Walsgrave. The house has already been approved by a committee of a planning committee in March 2012.

The development, though not yet in existence, will test the ability of the infrastructure to withstand the extra pressure it will bring, especially taking into account the plans of Dene Park Medical Centre, also in the Ward of Walsgrave.

Council and town councillor Linda Price welcomed the development but stressed the need for the town centre structure to serve the development.

'Everyone wants building, I know that's what people on Walsgrave want too,' she says. 'But we have to make sure that if there is a plan of a building, a plan of how it's built, identified in the local plan but it's concerned about getting the



area approved for Walsgrave housing, not all need. Charnock Fields has a long history of housing.

'Our GP surgery on the west side of Walsgrave has recently closed and it's coincided with the work that we've done in response to the new local authority's intention to take down the clinical space to find out what provision or resources they've had to offer. It's been a difficult time for them as they are just experiencing further pressure on other markets for which were already struggling.'

The new development, planned by

Barrie Williams, will also contain shops, a primary school, community facilities, a business park and green open spaces.

In a statement, Barrie Williams said: 'The new development has been designed to respect and reflect the character of the local area and the proposals have been developed in collaboration with the local community and the local authority.'

At the other side of Walsgrave, Fernside Homes and Flores Homes housing, part of west Charnock Fields, has a long history of housing.

'Euston Williams is a company that has been a long time coming but is extremely welcome as a development of this nature will help meet our housing, regeneration, educational, employment and commercial needs for the coming years.'

'The regeneration work between the council and the developer bring significant benefits for the local area and is a testament to the work undertaken.'

want findings referred to the Health Secretary Politicians 'strongly' object to Horton downgrade plan



services, the GOSH's aim to have new levels of staff including physiotherapists, anaesthetists and more paediatricians will increase costs and reduce early access to hospital.

The report states that agreeing to proposals without the full picture is 'foolish' and adds: "It is critical to agree to the cost of a building without knowing anything about the walls we intend to knock down is the very money for nothing."

"The GOSH should assess the impact

of financial pressures on local care at Gloucester. Meanwhile, the Phyl's consultation should be halted until such time as an assessment has been carried out and published and the full cost of the programme has been finalised."

"Phase 2 of the Gloucester Transformation Programme is to deliver significant savings for the NHS and the money will have to come from the delivery of the changes set in place. We estimate the temporary closure of the Phyl's will hit the Gorilla General and the temporary closure of other acute hospitals across the county."

"Partners in the Gloucester Transformation Programme are to deliver significant savings for the NHS and the money will have to come from the delivery of the changes set in place. We estimate the temporary closure of the Phyl's will hit the Gorilla General and the temporary closure of other acute hospitals across the county."

The report, released last Thursday, Healthwatch Gloucestershire said Day

of Care and the campaign group

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NEWS

Fire service praise family who escaped kitchen blaze

THE actions of the occupants of an Oxford house who evacuated their small children and two dogs during a kitchen fire have been praised by the fire service.

Fire crews from Oxfordshire County Emergency Plan and Rescue Service were called to the house at 188 North Oxford Close, between just after 7.30am on Tuesday last week.

The crews from Shire Park and Newbury-based Fire Stations on Oxford arrived within minutes of being called and were greeted with smoke and burnt smells from the kitchen.

By the time the emergency had evacuated the house, smoke from three children and two dogs to safety.

Firefighters, wearing breathing apparatus made their way through the smoke-laden house and located the source of the fire within the kitchen, causing a pile of children's bedding to catch alight.

After the alarm was sounded, instantaneously, one manager Kevin Morgan identified what should prevent the fire taking hold.

He said: "Due to the prompt and effective action of the fire crew the fire was contained in the kitchen area,



"I would like to express my thanks for the quick action you took to remove and keep these children safe and keep dust out of the property quickly and safely. They followed our procedure to the letter and got out, called the fire service out and stayed out."

"I would also like to commend the fire of the potential dangers along with the quick action you took to remove any possible risks, including the bedding and ensure it did not cause any damage to your property, has at least one smoke and smoke alarm on each level of your house and that you test weekly."

Oxfordshire County Council Fire Safety Planning Team is awaiting with the family's company a rehousing,



Sleepy old market

By **Antonia Ralston** Reporter

WITNEY is a 'sleepy little town' with plenty of potential, that will not be fully realised until the market town is redeveloped, according to the Mayor.

In an article published in April, it described Witney as 'dormant' and 'a town on the rise'.

The story described the area as a market town that for the last being to winds what estate agents call the 'Oxford Glow', a term coined a gen-

eral for the surge in house prices the town is seen to be experiencing.

The market town has a population of about 11,000 but this is set to rise by 2020, the Mayor, Peter Lunn, told the Oxfordshire Chronicle.

He said: "Last year 1,222 houses planned for construction, and another 1,046 in planning stages.

With this in mind, the plan now is to make Witney a 'sleepy old market town' look like becoming a boom town."

Witney town mayor Kevin Trickey said: "It was around 1990 when the late Alan Titchmarsh, who was in town on six leaves, in a *private* radio, said that since 1991, a lot of work is going on in the area and increasing the density at certain points have been brought about."

He said: "Much of this has already been facilitated by the enthusiasm of the councillors, and work of the officers. The empty shopunits have mostly been filled, making new busi-

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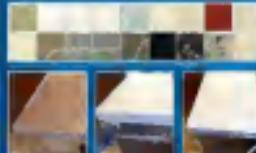
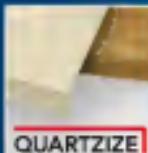
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In 2004, the Best Major of Whetstone Towns Awarded at the Town was named as the Town-Centre winner in the Great British High Street Awards

town is 'real deal'

seems have set up

"We have the new Christian lights and want to continue to make the town more appealing. The park at Whetstone has been refurbished, and £10 million has been allocated for a new leisure centre between Grove and Whetstone.



Whetstone Mayor Steve Trinder says the town has worked hard to reverse the decline it faced in a few years ago

Both have a good relationship, and that everyone agrees about the local academy King Alfreds where school is outstanding.

The report also touches on the education available in the area, saying that the comprehensive schools

are "in a strong position to cope with the projected expansion and planned development in the town".

Whetstone Mayor Steve Trinder says the town has worked hard to reverse the decline it faced in a few years ago

Ferrets 'thrown away to die'

Two live and two dead ferrets have been found dumped on the roadside.

The RSPCA was alerted on Monday last week after a member of the public discovered a situation which saw two live and two dead ferrets on the roadside near Bletchley near Milton Keynes.

The two live ferrets were discovered near the roadside, one of which was severely emaciated and the dead animals.

RSPCA inspector Andy Foley said: "I think the two live ferrets had been dumped in the wild to feed the other two. This is the only way it is possible to think the dead animals got."

"Sometime made the decision to do this to these poor creatures and it is a revolting unnecessary neglectful deliberate animal abuse."

"We do know the live ferrets were found alive in the undergrowth by the cubed who were thin and very dirty and thirsty."

"The two live ferrets are being care for the RSPCA at Bletchley and are doing well."

Middleton Melville who discovered the ferrets, described spot that the cubed unfortunately thought it had been tipped before making the gruesome discovery



One of the ferrets found on the side of the road and the cub who was a

ferret while looking for food

and someone said it was

dead, so I took it to the RSPCA

and they said it was

dead, so I took it to the RSPCA

and they said it was

dead, so I took it to the RSPCA

and they said it was

dead, so I took it to the RSPCA

and they said it was

dead, so I took it to the RSPCA

and they said it was

because the inspector found a man and woman who had been killing the ferrets for sport

"I took the live ferret home with me and gave it a drink. I never gave an animal drink as much as quickly as most had been, very dehydrated."

"He was really good and was playing with me. A year-old man in the car was driving."

"I used to think someone could just throw animals away like that and leave them in the sun."

The RSPCA is now appealing for information.

Mr Foley added: "The RSPCA would like to thank the RSPCA for the support and for the information and the information about where they have been able to be able to help us to find the person who abandoned them."

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Hi-tech parking system helps you find a space

A £100,000 "cutting edge" solution to parking is coming to Bletchley.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) has announced a new project offering sensors and cameras to help drivers find a space in town centres. The technology will guide vehicles to spaces, or will tell drivers if there are none available.

Cllr GAIL CARPENTER, Bletchley Town Mayor, said: "The scheme will help provide real-time information on the occupancy of Bletchley spaces, making it easier for drivers to park in the town centre.

The technology will also link into a computer app that would tell drivers how many empty spaces there are. A Bletchley space would also be able to record the time it was last used, and if that space was taken before they got there.

The county council hopes that the scheme will help reduce stress for

people trying to find somewhere to park as well as reducing car pollution.

The app will also help people to look at local planning and see where spaces are available.

Cllr GAIL CARPENTER, Bletchley Town Mayor, said: "The scheme will help provide real-time information on the occupancy of Bletchley spaces, making it easier for drivers to park in the town centre.

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The county council hopes that the scheme will help reduce stress for

Business park and hotel approved

PLANS for a new business park, car parking and six houses have been recommended for approval in Bletchley.

Plans to build Bletchley Gateway on Promised Land Farm, off Oxford Road, were submitted by developer

Edenbridge LLP.

The site, near the Vixens three-roundabout, is a 6.6 hectare triangular shaped piece of land. A revised application will be submitted at a later date for more houses while to complete the park.

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Planting the seeds to grow pupils' love for gardening

CHARITY Enthusiastic pupils at a west Dorsetshire primary school have dug out spades, trowels and rakes to celebrate national gardening week. Headteacher Mrs Celia Illman has provided the school with Celia's Folly, based on a domestic garden, growing vegetables and flowers as well as part of the school's enriching all day programme, which aims to develop

As well as the gardening tools, which also included watering cans and gloves, the school also received a small selection of bird and wildlife attractors to encourage wildlife into the school grounds.

Head teacher Philippa Hinchliffe at Breamore Cliff Primary School, said the donation has "given us a great opportunity involved in gardening".

She added: "Children can learn new skills, have fun and develop self-confidence by spending time in the garden as well as something we actually encourage."

"The new equipment will help get the children engaged with the school gardens as well as create a more interactive environment for the environment we enjoy".

Heidi Colborn, regional sales and marketing manager for Celia's Folly Children, said: "National gardening week is all about encouraging new gardeners as we thought it would be a great opportunity to help encourage younger generations to get involved



Pupils from Breamore Cliff Primary School with their new gardening tools and equipment donated by Celia's Folly.

and develop a passion for gardening. "We're delighted to be able to support Breamore Cliff primary school and hope the children enjoy using the new equipment."



Leisure centre boost for hospice with activity day

George Wells, Reporter

MORE than 100 residents took part in a series of fundraising activities at a leisure centre raising nearly £12,000 for local charity Helen & Douglas House. The charity Funtastic, was part of efforts to mark the 10th anniversary of the hospice and the centre's own members 10th anniversary, which also included an open weekend on April 1 and 2.

Visitors to the centre were invited to enjoy a host of activities for free and, rather than paying the normal price, were invited to make a donation to the charity instead.

A series of activities included squash, tennis and padel, as well as a number of different forms of bingo, quizzes and game zones - while the centre's new swimming pool, which opened largely popular with the town's children.

Wiltshire Lifesavers and Friends Can the powerful manager Karen Williams said: "It was great to see so many local people attending and supporting day."

"I would like to thank our staff and volunteers who made the day such a success," Helen & Douglas House.

"The charity has worked so hard to



Supporting the charity in the future.

Community sports manager Meagan Harwood added: "The centre has evolved over the last 10 years since it opened to 2000."

"We are seeing an additional increase of 10 per cent more people come in to start up again in the centre in September."

"These day helped to showcase this by offering such a wide range of activities for a small donation towards charity."

Charity moves to share offices

LDCL Older people's charity Age UK Dorsetshire is moving premises.

The Alton-based charity moved from Westgate Street, in the centre of town, to Unit 10a at Maple Court, Carlton Lake this month. "They will be joined next week by the other charity Age UK Dorsetshire, who are moving from The Charter, also in Alton," town centre.

The charity has made the decision to move in a result of a number of factors, including not having the same kind and has taken the opportunity to relocate into a single premises in Alton.

Age UK Dorsetshire's contact details will stay the same and more information surrounding the move and opening times can be seen on their website and social media.

Go to www.ageuk.org.uk/dorsetshire for more information.

Crackdown on rogue landlords

NOVEMBER will see the introduction of new laws to combat rogue landlords with greater powers.

Orford Council is introducing new regulations which will allow local authorities to impose fines of up to £10,000 to improve safety and affordability for the evictions.

Rogue landlords will face much more severe consequences in practice, landlords will be liable for legal action or enforcement of evictions or being subject to severe entry.

In the last year £12.2m was repaid by landlords to tenants.

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Campaigners prevented from airing views by agency's move

By Andrew Parker

CAMPAINERS against Chalgrove airfield are queuing to a decision to stop them from having a say in what goes on in their village.

The Homes and Community Agency which helps create homes and business premises where they are needed, has taken the decision to shut down communication on its Facebook page and project website and said it will not respond to any emails or letters.

On March 21, the HCA posted: "Following the Inquiry by Design meeting in January the HCA Delivery Team liaised with London Mayor Boris Johnson's office to understand the scope of the proposed London Air Task Plan project, submission of a planning application and implementation stage."

"This Facebook page will not be updated whilst the HCA continues all of the sensible technical enforcement and feedback from the event. We will not respond to any comments left on the page at this time."

"The HCA will seek to engage the community at this point."



Hundreds of people are opposed to the Chalgrove airfield development

Now the group, the Chalgrove Airfield Action Group, which is active in the area to stop the proposed 100-hectare housing development, is livid that it must live with the 'uncommunicative' agency until the next In Inquiry by Design meeting.

One member said: "We're concerned about what they do to the community."

They added that the group has submitted questions to the HCA and are

not had answers a month after the Inquiry by Design event.

They said: "The questions highlight an unwillingness to communicate as the members, as yet, have not received any answers to their questions.

A second Airline Transport Workshop was also planned. It was originally planned for March but no date has been set despite repeated requests for information from Chal-

grave Airfield Action Group.

"The closure of the website, together with the wording of the disclaimer implies that they will not champion the views of the community."

"Chalgrove Airfield Action Group is extremely concerned at the inaction and uncommunicative change of the HCA website www.english-heritage.org.uk and how this fits with the Inquiry by Design that they say 'support'."

The campaigners have highlighted the need for their issues to be heard and have presented the support of their community to appropriate bodies. After South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) referred its local planning appeal No 14, which said for Chalgrove Airfield Action Group agreed to drop out.

Local work坊 leader John Doe has said: "We are in the process of seeking more detail of consultation and we will be contacting the responsible authority to make sure the community is heard for this airfield."

A third Airline Transport Workshop was also planned. It was originally planned for March but no date has been set despite repeated requests for information from Chal-



By Andrew Parker

AUTOMATED cars are no longer a futuristic fantasy as a company that produces vehicles consisting of moving wheelbarrow-sized driver-cabs, is moving to go with its new project.

Orbital Rail Solutions (Orbital) has developed a driverless train system and tested its prototype 'Harry' at London's Stratford on April 6 to test how it handles from city environments.

The final phase of the company's forthcoming Project Kestrel automated transport development aims to implement mobility management.

"With us, a prototype could begin



THE GARDENERS are being urged to get involved in a community garden scheme to help their local community.

They will also get the chance to become gardeners themselves, with a range of tools and equipment available to use.

Berkeley Town Council is looking for people of all ages to carry out voluntary work at the Community Garden in People's Park.

The project offers people with small gardens or without gardens, or those who don't want an allotment, to grow their own vegetables.

They will grow fruit, flowers and vegetables that will be rotated as necessary. It is open to all from April to August.

They will also be able to take

some flowers and vegetables home for personal or charitable use.

There is a no charge and all equipment needed will be provided.

Volunteers include anyone from local charities to work on the garden, to individuals who want to help out.

There is a large greenhouse and poly tunnel so work can be done in all weather.

Experienced gardeners willing to share their knowledge are particularly welcome.

Park ranger Steve Harry said: "We are looking for people to help us to grow more fruit and vegetables, and to share their knowledge with others, as well as pleasure to themselves."

They can come as often as they will like as they want, but they will

get the satisfaction of seeing the results of their efforts as the fruit, flowers and vegetables mature until they are ready to pick and eat.

Starting our season on Sunday at the Beale Park and produce show is a great opportunity, especially since the price is free.

Berkeley's community garden is around half an acre of land in People's Park that was not used

as a playing field and is now

available for voluntary work.

It is in the centre of the park near Berkeley Borough Council.

Those interested can contact Berkeley Town Council on 01865 850000 or call in at the town hall in Berkeley.



The gateway to future transport

a driverless navigation of a Bicester road with passengers in buses, using the University's personnel, using sensors and autonomous software in-vehicle and road obstacles.

The first trial explored people's acceptance of automated vehicles operating in a real-world environment through detailed interviews before and after riding in the vehicles.

Research findings could lead to a wider roll-out of automated vehicle technology which reinforces include easy, secure, and stress-free

Dr Christian Smith, CEO of Oxford, said: "We are excited to finally move into public trials and demonstrations of our autonomy software at this unique vehicle. It is vital for us to trial our system in real-world situations and gain feedback, and we hope to learn increasingly from this autonomous vehicle about real-life pedestrian and cyclist."

Professor Nick Reed, academic director of Transport Research Laboratories, said: "The research is another milestone on the UK's journey towards

driverless vehicles and a vital step towards delivering safer, cleaner and more effective transport in our cities. It is crucial that the public are fully involved as these technologies become a reality. The GATI/ON Project is now at an exciting new stage, and we look forward to these trials as the anticipated benefits to society can be maximised."

"We see automated vehicles as a practical solution to delivering safe, clean, accessible and affordable last-mile mobility."

Chris Bennington, Councillor, Green, South, Milton
Ward, from Oxford

30mph speed limit approved

All sections of the B1080 speed limit Council in Easton, Northampton has been approved as part of work to create access for a new development.

The extension of the speed limit was proposed by developers and received the Valley Police, now the Vale of the White Horse District Council, raised objections to the plan during recent public consultation.

The 30mph speed limit will now extend 1.8 miles southwards beyond the point at which the road currently ends to a new residential development just south of Fotheringay.

Oxfordshire County Council

approved the change on April 3.

Aspiring to be the best view

THE viewing species of choice in one of the greatest British views: a study day chance!

According to the report commissioned by the National Trust, Oxfordshire is the fifth-best view in Britain, ahead of Stourhead in Wiltshire, Castle in Northumberland and the Lake District, Kent and Cumbria.

Where does the county stand on the survey which includes open-cast coal mines, 100s of views created by trained experts?

Nowhere is the peak of performance while the British Highlands and Shetland Isles feature in the top three.

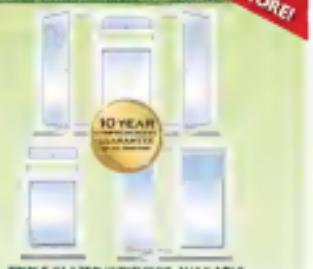


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Fitness centre shapes up with £135k refurb

By Amy McLean, Reporter

A HEALTH and fitness centre has completed a major revamp to 'lead' centre the facilities and accommodate new members and those with other funding needs of £135,000.

Wingate Health & Fitness, a facility owned by Malida Leisure Ltd, has completed a £100,000 refurb and following the funding from Banister Corporate & Commercial that has helped create new studios for increased numbers of classes, longer opening hours and more.

The expansion has also created an interview area of the facility at Green Business Park.

Lisa Andrade, director at Malida Leisure Ltd, said: "The population of the local area has been expanding rapidly with housing for around 2,000 people currently under development, so we look now to a great time to invest."

"The funding has allowed us to add a members' floor to the building which has created two new fitness studios and an overload of floor space downstairs to modernise the equipment and our exercise areas."

Renee Powell, relationship director



The new-look centre at Green Business Park

at Banister Corporate & Commercial, said: "With the refurbishment it now looks great. The local area has been growing rapidly and we wanted to shape an appropriate funding scheme for the Health & Fitness. They have a clear and compelling growth-focused business case and we are delighted to have been able to support them at this exciting time."

Malida Leisure Ltd, the fitness centre, has offered discounted free weights

equipment along with a pool, steam room and sauna, as well as classes such as Pilates, yoga, circuit training and strength training, free of charge.

The site also houses hair and beauty salons and a sports injury clinic.

The expansion supported by Banister is the result, in part, of a 33% service membership and has also allowed the business to connect with a new long-term lease to support the fast-growing local population.

Pupils showcase creative side by unearthing town

PODS of local history will be exhibited in a 'dig' and innovation art show produced by Dulac Old School.

The exhibition 'Unearthing Bedrock Creativity' will showcase photo-collage and a dance to celebrate the 100th year of the Cornishman Arts Centre until April 26.

The Dulac School, in Mousehole, has come up with a two-part exhibition. The Arts Earth and Moon Dance will provide a visual representation of a group of girls aged 11 to 16 who take part and apply their creative skills.

The young girls took part in photography using cameras from the Mousehole Resource Centre and will also do some workshops where they will be encouraged to make art.

They will also have a hair and beauty studio and a sports injury clinic.

Malida Leisure Ltd, the fitness centre, has offered discounted free weights

equipment along with a pool, steam room and sauna, as well as classes such as Pilates, yoga, circuit training and strength training, free of charge.

It was great to collaborate with Dulac and organisations involved with young people who wouldn't normally have access to that sort of opportunity but we hope that they will be more creative and the girls will be more inspired to make a relevant outcome seen here.

It was great to collaborate with Dulac and organisations involved with young people who wouldn't normally have access to that sort of opportunity but we hope that they will be more inspired to make a relevant outcome seen here.

The site for the show was chosen as part of the County Collections Project, aimed at bringing Gloucestershire's museum collections closer audiences across the county and the area.

The exhibition has been organised by Arts Council England, Gloucestershire County Council, the Dulac Old School and Gloucestershire County Museum Partnership.

Employee treated for smoke effects

THREE FIREFIGHTERS put out a fire at a kitchen in a Gloucester restaurant and helped a customer who was suffering from smoke inhalation.

The fire service was called to the Chinese restaurant, at Sheep Street, on Wednesday last week, after a commercial fryer caught fire.

Detained Commander, crew mem-

ber Doug Whisker, of Worcester Fire Station, said: "The fire was quickly extinguished and the customer who was suffering from smoke inhalation was treated by paramedics before being taken to hospital.

The fire service has been called to the restaurant on three occasions in the past month.

The damage was not believed to have been caused by the business itself and the property was not damaged.

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Facelift for folly thanks to store cash

AN iconic folly in a remote and scenic new location after a charitable donation by a supermarket chain.

Farington Folly Tesco has donated £320 to the charity that runs and maintains the folly on the four acre Folly Hill.

Farington Folly Trust, which is run by volunteers, has received the cheque, which will be used to fund the repairing of the folly's brickwork, trees and its flower beds for the grounds.

Several colleagues from Tesco will also be involved in a spring clean at the woodland surrounding the folly.

The 18th century 1529 folly in a Farington wood and woodland to the Trust, has been built as Farington's first 20th century folly. Tesco and one of the most important landmarks in the town.

It is run by a charity and volunteers and is open from April to October, attracting nearly 20,000 visitors each year.

Robin Williams, chair of the Friends of the Folly Trust, said: "We're delighted to receive that donation from Tesco."

"The Folly Trust maintains the site of the ancient woodland, Gull Banks, and the two acres of woodland are the most suitable habitat for people locally to walk in."



Robin Williams, Chair and Gail Webb, secretary of the Friends of Folly Trust receive a cheque for £320 from Tesco Farington store manager, Guy Bates. Pictured with Tesco colleagues, community champion Trevor Rye, services manager, Martin Webb, team support Caroline Hardy, customer assistant, Pet Bunn and customer assistant graduate Wayne Varney and local, local brewer Tim Hill.

"We don't have any statutory funding so we have to raise money by having the raffles and securing grants."

The Tesco store is supporting the Friends of the Folly Trust in its effort to help charities, groups and good causes and the support from the community is where community champion Trevor Rye,

Shop manager Guy Bates said: "Farington is a Farington known. Folly Folly and most people have spent a fun day out at the tower the week the Trust does its repair and maintenance it is gloriously appropriate."

"We wanted to show our thanks for helping out and contributing in this way."



Running to thank sight loss charity for helping grandma

George Webb: Reporter

A RUNNER is ready to face up her challenges as she prepares to take on the London Marathon for a charity that has helped her grandmother come to terms with losing her sight.

Runners across London Thomas has been training for 11 days for the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) a charity that has helped support her grandmother, her 80 year old Elizabeth McMenamin.

Elizabeth lost the majority of her vision pretty much overnight at the tender age of 80 due to age related macular degeneration (AMD).

Londoner Lee, 21, from Farnham, Surrey, will join 40,000 others to give something back to her charity for the support when she completed the 2016 London Marathon on April 23.

Lee has never run a marathon before – prior to signing up, the 21-year-old did not even like running.

However, Lee has turned around and now wants to complete the 2017 London Marathon in preparation for the big day.

Despite not being a runner

she is determined to give it her best to the charity that has helped her grandmother live independently. She said: "Since my grandma lost her sight, RNIB has been there for her providing advice and support to make her life easier and better."

"The support has meant that she is able to live independently and she's still able to enjoy life. Farnham Royal has a local RNIB for her to go to."

"I'm not a natural runner but decided that I wanted to do something to say thanks to RNIB for all the help they've given my grandma, and that's enough of a goal to say to myself."

"The training has been tough, but it is a bit of a challenge that I've got to do for my grandma."

"We are excited to be running for RNIB to give something back, and our goal will be to finish the start line on April 23."

Lee's friend, RNIB senior visual impairment manager, said: "We're delighted to hear that we're being supported by Lee to give something back through her sight loss charity."

"The money she raises will enable us to continue to help people living with sight loss, helping the future with



confidence, as people live, laugh and support their loved ones."

Londoner Lee, 21, from Farnham, Surrey, will join 40,000 others to give something back to her charity for the support when she completed the 2016 London Marathon on April 23.

Lee's friend, RNIB senior visual impairment manager, said: "We're delighted to hear that we're being supported by Lee to give something back through her sight loss charity."

"The money she raises will enable us to continue to help people living with sight loss, helping the future with

Put some spring in your kids' step

GET your children off the sofa and into action at a Farnham Lanes event at Farnham Leisure Centre.

The leisure centre's 10th anniversary has announced a special Easter event open to children and Monday evenings from 7pm to 4pm.

Available for children aged 18 months to 10 years old.

Take part in a 100m race for one child, to 10s for three children. So tickets will be available on the door.

Take part online at <http://tinyurl.com/y6q2q28k>

Beware prickly creatures

A REDDING community campaign is calling for people to 'Wipe out' the hedgehog at West Herts and Hertfordshire district council's grounds maintenance contractor. Others are being sourced in search of a new hedgehog before using their equipment.

This comes as part of Hedgehog Awareness Week running from 28 April to 4 May.

Hedgehog Awareness Week, which is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, has declared an incident in recent years because their environment is under threat from a wide range of factors including the rate of development much as climate change. They are fast-spreading creatures and deserve our protection."

Make a date for town's big lunch

THE date has been set for this year's Bunting the Lunch – Bunting-Jones.

This will be staged on Saturday, April 22, at the Bunting-Jones Hall to set up in Sheep Street and Peacock Square for friends and families to lunch together.

It is the fifth year running the event has been staged at Bunting-Jones.

Meet police at safety event

THAMESCORP Police are available to have your year round lockdown or police ways to make the community safer.

Go meet more, the neighbourhood policing team on April 21 at Market Place, Bunting-Jones.

The event, organised by TCFP and the Isle of Wight Police, will be held at an open forum to communicate issues with residents.

Building careers

APPROX 100 construction apprenticeships are offered to 16 to 18 year olds across the Orwell district over the next year as part of planned growth.

Chelmsford Council has been working with construction companies and the Skills Funding Agency to establish a local Apprenticeship Training Centre.

Chris Cullen, Chelmsford's economic director, said: "It gives the district the chance to maximise the opportunity created by its links with developing firms for people looking to make their way in the construction industry."

NEWS

Job losses as bank set to close

CARTERETON Maple Bank has announced that its Carterton branch is one of all 16 to close because between July and October.

The Further Head Manager is among a group of 100 staff at Carterton already offered in principle and it is set to close on September 23.

A total of 16 Maple branches will be impacted, alongside 14 Banks of Scotland, 10 Standard and 22 Halifax branches.

There will also be a cut reduction of 200 staff who will carry out reduced short day plans on Wednesday and work

Carterton is the latest branch to join a total of 160000 customers who have already signed up to online banking and Halifax branches expect a total of 120000 across the country.

School wins quiz challenge

WINNING COMMEND Bishopsgate School in Sonning Common, near Reading, has won the Berkshire County Council Challenge Quiz.

The quiz, hosted at Upton House in Oxfordshire, tested an instant recall for children who learning difficulties.

It is designed to give children a chance to demonstrate their memory and safety skills and knowledge.

Eight schools competed and the quiz, which has run for 10 years, was organised by Berkshire County Council's Trust for Standards Service.

Pupils hooked by fundraising

Georgina Wells, Reporter

PRIMARY school children have organised a number of fancy dress events and raised more than £200 for a charity raising funds to prevent poverty in Zambia.

St Alured Catholic Primary School, based in St Mary's Road, East Barnet, started a week ago with CAPFO, a Catholic development charity, to help raise funds for the charity's work in Zambia.

Despite being a four mile walk from the South African embassy of London, the generous contribution of 300 Animal pupils and parents has helped fund a community library, health centre and crop farming to part of CAPFO's work in Zambia.

The school raised a total of £2000, plus £1000 from a cake sale, and £1000 from a raffle, organised over three days of fundraising on March 22.

Pupils at the prep school, one period of pupils in year 5 and 6, held a cake sale that raised £1000 and the rest of the school raised another £1000 with a non uniform day. Some children even donated old clothes.

However, the main event was a fish and chip lunch dinner where both adults and children enjoyed fish and a serving of Fishing Day. The children also enjoyed a quiz and raffle to help the night's entertainment raise nearly £1000.



Pupils raised
more than £200
with a cake sale
while families
enjoyed a fish
and chip supper

Overall, the schools' charity fundraising raised more than £5000.

The cash will help provide poor communities with the means to feed their families by helping them to receive training in agriculture, to their local environment and to their local community.

St Alured head Helen Kellam said: "We raised a considerable amount of money considering we have just 32 families and 111 children. However, I am very proud of our community's response to reach out to those in need globally."

Four-year-old Michael was asked to pose for the raffle. "It was brilliant; everybody looks fun time."

"The best bit was watching the film and eating popcorn with my friends."

According to CAPFO, it is estimated that over half of families below the poverty line are poor. This means that these families do not have enough money to meet basic needs such as food, heating and clothing.

The money raised by St Alured will mean that CAPFO's partners will be able to continue to support projects around the world.

CAPFO's chief executive on Wokingham, Jo Loring, said: "We would like to say a big thank you to St Alured for joining us in fundraising, one donation at a time."

"By raising together and adding up all the small things, we can make a massive difference."

To donate, visit [capfo.org](http://www.capfo.org)



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Work during the filming of 'For The Love of Fred'. Pictures: Michael

Student's film helps raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease

George Whibley Reporter

AN Oxford University student has joined forces with a film director and local Oxford residents to make a film based on the devastating loss of Alzheimer's disease.

The year three students, Alastair and his colleagues from local Alzheimer's care home, made the film for the Love of Fred, which will raise awareness of dementia but focused on the loss and lonely pitch taken by loved ones.

For Jenny working with the film crew was an exciting opportunity to gain valuable experience to help specialise her role in the production.

She said: "I loved every minute of working on this film."

"It was such a brilliant and rewarding experience to programme hours of Alzheimer's patients' lives in the film into a small film, working alongside professionals and learning so much on the process all the way through to observing the editing process."

Director and producer, Alastair, founder of Oxford based production house Soul Reckon Productions, said: "As an entrepreneur myself, I appreciate the time and effort it takes to make a film, so I wanted to make sure that the people who are affected by Alzheimer's disease are the ones to benefit from the film, so that they can either go to take a break or have someone to sit and chat with them in going through."

Oxford University Theatricals (OLT) stall on the Brasenose Campus provided the backdrop for much of the film and local residents, students and University Royal Ballet members, including (URBAC) took part as extras.

Although the Love of Fred is still in post-production, the students have also produced a supporting music video titled Fred, which will have



Alastair (right) and Jenny (left) on the set of 'For the Love of Fred'.

young audiences in the world.

The initiation was one of 27 British universities to make the Oxbridge Higher Education top-100 list, of higher education institutions less than 100 years old last week.

Oxford University became a university in 1835 but University of Oxon in 1845 when the former Oxford School of Art was established.

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NEWS

Mela returns to mark diversity

A FREE family festival celebrating diversity in the community is returning to Oxford.

The India-themed, well-loved three-day festival of food, art, culture and music will be held on May Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday and Sunday, with a variety of international music performances, dances, a little jazz and food stalls.

The event includes competitions with Indian city council and Oxford university.

For more information, go to <http://www.oxindia.mela.org/oxindia.html>

Ale drink to blues festival

TICKETS are now on sale for the annual Wriggling Blues and Beer festival.

Now in its 17th year the event will take place at the Raugel Centre on June 8 and June 15.

Wriggling Blaids will headline on Friday while the Tracy Kevins Band are headliners on Saturday.

There will also be bands playing a family session on Saturday from 4pm to 6pm.

Use www.wrigglingblues.co.uk for more information.

Uncover city's humorous past

OXFORD's hidden history features will be revealed at a free evening event for the Museum of Oxford.

The public are invited to the Old Museum on May 18 for a glimpse into quirky museum stories, told by Professor Marianne Moore, museum professional historian, and writer, Bill and Sue.

All proceeds from the night will go towards the Museum of Oxford's major redevelopment initiative.

The institution's story will continue to increase during the event with more stories to tell.

To book, visit <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/18401749175> or contact 01865 204444.

Councillor quits

BALLINGDON Town Council have expressed their thanks for the work of Councillor Miles Craven who has resigned.

He was thanked for all the work he carried out while on the council especially regarding the closure of the town's bridge and car park.

Mr Craven's resignation leaves an opening for a co-opted and agreeable alternative should the town council need to for debate and a name cannot be found on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Join sing time

REGULAR sessions for budding friendly singing sessions are at 'Sing and Shout'.

The sessions, on April 19 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm, are run by Sophie Paine at the Old Museum in Oxford Town Centre and costs £3.

For more information, email sophie@paine.org.

Snitches and quaffles set to fly through city

George Welch, Reporter

QUEEN'S students from across the country are to fly in to Oxford for the only inter-university quidditch tournament in the country.

Following the success of the British Quidditch Cup, held earlier this month, Gringotts, quidditch's governing body, is preparing for the Quidditch Development Cup to be hosted at the Raugel Sports Ground on April 27 and 28. The tournament, which will feature 12 teams from across the UK, will be run by the University of Oxford and Leadership in Quidditch, one of the participating teams, is called 'Quidditch University Team'.

The tournament, inspired by JK Rowling's fictional sport played by pupils at Hogwarts in the Harry Potter books, will feature a competition for the best dressed and most competitive team of quidditch stars and players in the competition.

The president of Quidditch UK, Matt Pijer, said: "This is Quidditch's first development Cup and it is testament to the rapid growth and expansion of the sport within the UK."

Queen's University's first team, the Raugel Blaids, have a break from practice. Picture: Eric Peller



While this may be a tournament for developing teams like the Raugel Blaids, the cup will still be high with the cup being won open to any team that can go home with the trophy.

A quidditch team consists of 21 athletes with seven players per team on the field at any one time. Each player has a broom between their legs

leg. The four maximum rule of quidditch states that at most there can be four players of the same gender on pitch at one time to ensure the game is mixed gender and inclusive to all. Players can be on of four teams: the keepers, chasers, beaters and seekers.



The specific is a non-physical solo sport where the ball is thrown through loops by chasers and keepers while the beaters are soloists who lob the ball with a special ball.

Meanwhile the bludger is a seek with a tennis ball in it, attached to the neck of a seeker's chest. When caught by other team's seeker, the

Pupils say 'action' to awareness film

PUPILS with autism at Oxford special school organised a World Autism Awareness Week by making a special charity to raise funds to help people understand autism.

World Autism Awareness Week between March 27 and April 2 people at LVI Oxford joined forces with the charity based Oxfam Trust to help others understand what living with autism is like.

A group of students at the Thorpe school for young people aged 11 to 18 with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder, worked to help people understand more about the condition through a film titled 'The World Through Our Eyes'.

The school and the community hope the film will help some of the students with autism who have had trouble dealing with people from family, friends, education and the community.

The project, being led by Cleo Orla and Helen Le Enq from the Oxfam Trust, which is based at The Cornmarket Trust Autism Centre in Oxford.

When the final film is finished it will be presented to the Trust and submitted to the Oxfordshire Autism and Acceptance in the wider community.

Lucas Allman, 18, from the Oxfam Trust, said: "We are very keen to support World Autism Awareness Week as we feel there is a long way to go before the general

public fully understand the wide range of issues faced by people with autism.

"Ours, here at LVI Oxford, we know that it can be hard for young people to come to terms with their diagnosis so it is great for us to have a special week to raise awareness of autism to help them feel more at ease with other children, staff, family and friends."

Other World Autism Awareness Week activities give students the opportunity to learn more about autism themselves and to share their experiences with others and with other children, staff, family and friends.

After completing a full day of making and filming the project



films are available to view on the Oxfam Trust website www.oxfamtrust.org.uk.

Students are exploring the thoughts of a young person with autism and autism, students learn filming techniques





Oxford University's first team, the Radcliffe Chimeras, in action against Exeter
Photo: Renuka Singh

plus a sofa.

The OUC is a member of the Inter-University Quidditch Association and Team UK came third in last year's Quidditch World Cup, Australia.

Top photo:

This will be a non-taught event and more information, including more on the rules, can be found at www.quidditch.org.

Estates to benefit from £750,000 regeneration

Emma Welsh Reporter

TWO Oxford suburbs are to receive a boost after being given a £750,000 injection to speed up their regeneration scheme.

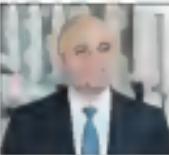
Oxford City Council received a £750,000 grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to support the delivery of regeneration in Bampton and Blackbird Leys.

The grant, split between £48,000 for Blackbird Leys and £222,000 for Bampton, is to help deliver the community leadership management plan, legal, and procurement work to deliver the scheme.

The two Oxford estates were part of more than 100 housing estates across the country that received cash from the DCLG's £35 million Estates Improvement Fund.

Money is to be used to speed up regeneration schemes in their early stages, help address problems that hold up projects, and give local regeneration trusts the tools to manage high-quality regeneration.

Launched earlier this year, the £35 million, investing in local regeneration project to improve the blocks of flats and neighbourhoods.



Councillor Mike Stanley, Ward member for Bampton, said: "The grant that we've successfully had for this year, which will help us to move forward with programme work for the regeneration of Blackbird Leys. With the new funds we can also look at the future for the regeneration of Bampton and create new regeneration opportunities for the area, such as increasing the use of renewable land."

Communities Secretary Iain Duncan Smith writes such as Bampton and Blackbird Leys to thrive as communities.

Centre, include the street environ-

ment, and improve security.

Design options for the redevelopment of Underhill Estate—the focus of the community— are being consulted and additional funds will be invested to carry out the work.

The money will be used to carry out the regeneration of blocks of flats and Lettings Trusts to regenerate the area and provide new housing.

The regeneration will refresh the physical environment and create greater vitality and stronger public space at the heart of the regeneration area, the council added.

"Regeneration must be sustainable, and this £35 million fund will help transform new life into estates throughout the country. It will help more ordinary working people have the security of a decent place to live."

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NEWS

Shops sign up to keep watch on offenders

OUTREACH In Thame town police have passed a petition scheme to help reduce shoplifting.

The Shop Watch scheme is a pilot scheme between shops at the town and the police.

Shops who sign up to the initiative get a radio and GPS receiver with each other's key to offenders moving between stores.

The police also monitor the radio and catch offenders if required.

There will be a team of people who will be on the phones dealing with issues from all over in the scheme.

Police community support officer Jason Hopkins, based in Thame, said: "The stores that have signed up will be receiving a radio which will be linked to each other and the police.

"This will enable faster and better communication between the shops."

"The purpose of Shop Watch is to enable instant communication between retailers."

"It's an example of where Shop Watch would start in full potential would be if a group were trying to spread around the country to keep it going and then they could contact any other retailer the Shop Watch is working for now."

"Extremely there will also be a website similar to the Police Watch where a person based from one shop will be informed from all.

"This will cover any offence they have committed and hopefully prevent them from doing it again in the future.

Shops taking part in the initiative will get details on their website.

For more information email the Neighbourhood Team on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/communities/police/ShopWatch.htm.

Hole lot of help

THE Mayor's task on Abingdon County Hall are asking a Saturday volunteer.

The task, organised by Abingdon Town Mayor's Task, is to help a small team of staff and volunteers and a host of students, parents and local families.

The Mayor's Hole-Club is a regular weekly activity.

If you would like to be a part of a small team and enjoy meeting new people contact the Mayor on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/communities/abingdon/mailetofthetask@oxfordshire.gov.uk or 01235 462000.

Time for tea?

GARDENERS who are skilled tea-chaity can apply when they can explore and enjoy a 'longest cup' record.

The Gordon Tea Party on May 3 will be between 2.30pm and 4.30pm at the Royal Horticultural Hall in London.

Tickets are £10 per person.

All proceeds will be donated to the Royal Horticultural Society, helping to plan, design and create gardens for the most vulnerable and families who spend time in hospitals across the UK.

To apply visit www.gordonsteaparty.org.uk.

Ground breaking ceremony cements city's innovation



From left, Ian Wright, BEM, Regis Architects; Steven Carey, MSc, Bannister Construction; Sir David Clary, President, Magdalen College; Mark Schlesinger, Wright, BEM, The Oxford Science Park; Jo Johnson MP, Universities and Science Minister; Sirry May, Director, Magdalen College; Councillor Bob Price, Leader of Oxford City Council and John, an image of the new £12m Plus and Lab.

From *Autumnhouse* Reporter

OXFORD has broken ground on the £12 million plus and laboratory building at Oxford Science Park.

The ceremony revealed the name and showed off the building, named after university entrepreneurship of the area.

The university and science minister Jo Johnson MP was there on behalf of the £12m project, which is an official ceremony that preceded the new building's completion. American theoretical physicist Kip Thorne, a Nobel laureate and a recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004, attended.

He is the first to move into the building.

The Minister met Councillor Bob

entrepreneurship:

Sir John Johnson, Oxford University's Vice-Chancellor, and Mark Schlesinger, managing director of the Oxford Science Park, attended the ceremony.

The ceremony revealed the name and showed off the building, named after university entrepreneurship of the area.

The university and science minister Jo Johnson MP was there on behalf of the £12m project, which is an official ceremony that preceded the new building's completion. American theoretical physicist Kip Thorne, a Nobel laureate and a recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004, attended.

He is the first to move into the building.

The Minister met Councillor Bob



Johnson and with the team

the Minister broke ground for the £12m plus and laboratory building.

"The Oxford Science Park is an engine of innovation and entrepreneurship."

"The Mayor met Councillor Bob

Johnson and with the team

the Minister broke ground for the £12m plus and laboratory building.

"The Oxford Science Park is an engine of innovation and entrepreneurship."

"The Mayor met Councillor Bob

"Oxford's world-leading success is built on its research excellence that continues to attract the best minds and cement the UK's reputation as an innovation nation."

Universities and science minister Jo Johnson MP

'Step up to social work' and help change people's lives

GRADUATES have the opportunity to help the local provision of child and family social workers and make a real difference in people's lives.

A national 18-month child and family social workers programme called Step Up to Social Work will combine university learning with on-the-job experience on a local authority social work team, and local Oxfordshire organisations can apply by May 8.

Successful candidates will be awarded a post graduate diploma in social work when they graduate, silencing them to practice.

They can also do a career social work a desirable career involving more than £20,000 as a social worker, training and professional courses, including teaching partnerships, bursaries and debt-reduce progression.

Deborah Cawley, County Council's principal social worker, said: "We really encourage anyone who thinks social work might be the career for them to look into this scheme and consider working as an application.

With very much welcome local applicants interested in doing their

training in Oxfordshire as part of this scheme, and potentially going on to practice here as qualified social workers."

Danielle Trowler, chief social worker for Children and Families, said: "I know from my own experience what a challenging and fulfilling career social work can be, and I am really pleased to see that this programme is encouraging more people to consider it. Progression like this one attracts hundreds of talented graduates each year who make a real difference to the lives of chil-

dren and families."

The Step Up programme runs annually for two years. This year more than 300 funded places are available to support trainees. After application close, May students will start training at January 2014.

Candidates are eligible to apply if they have a 2:1 degree, or a 2:2 plus honours degree, or a relevant other than social work.

For more information, visit www.stepupuk.org/apply/step-up-social-work-scheme/ or apply online.

Star studded time on TV set for costume design student

George Walsh Reporter

A RECENT visit to a TV show has helped costume design student from Cirencester to develop a career as the industry's next big thing, even put in more, a Harry Potter.

Cirencester College of Art and Design (CCAD) student, Alice Church, whose, in her final year of a Costume Designer postgraduate with Design degree at the specialist institution, attended, spent a week assisting on the production of a new, multi-award winning programme.

The 12 part series, a worldwide hit for the BBC, is the second series of BBC One's Hospital People at the University Hospital of Bedford.

The show ran for three years in time and the second series features appearances from the cast and crew, including Russell Brand and Mark Williams, better known as Arthur and Gilderoy Longbottom from Harry Potter.

Alice, who is currently based in Bedfordshire during her studies, said that, despite the long days - including one 12 hour shift - she's "an amazing experience".

She said: "The highlight for me was definitely being able to sit in and see all of the costumes created."



Alice, left, at work as costume for the set of Hospital People which airs at 9.30pm on April 21 on BBC One

"I was there the first night they arrived with all the crew and I got the opportunity to shadow one of the costume staff as an intern. I have to say, while this worked perfectly, it was tiring."

"During filming we worked to get actors iniders with their costumes and outfit them at the end of the day re-examining for the next day of filming."

"I did some alterations work for

a particularly petite member of the cast and even got the opportunity to shadow one of the costume staff as an intern. I have to say, while this worked perfectly, it was tiring."

The final year student, who is currently working on the last major project and preparing for the final show of the university's degree programme, said she planned to continue working with the same costume artists and even meet a star or two.

Alice added: "I enjoyed the teacher



of Black Willow who plays Arthur Weasley in the Harry Potter films, as he was packing up for the day."

"Initially I remembered him but couldn't place who he was or how I knew him, he was very friendly and polite."

Gnashers to ashes - OAP claims £1,000

AN elderly man claimed almost £1,000 due to an increase from his life insurance policy but his legal team said he was already entitled to his full benefit.

The 94-year-old man from Oxford got his life policy from the cash and they claimed under the cash and annuity.

Life insurance expert, Agusti, put a smile back on his face and replaced them, in the process, with £1,000.

Agusti revealed the initial insurance had put it at around its top in straight life insurance claims at 2005.

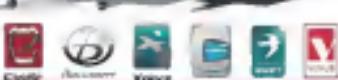
Other insurance providers had rates that matched it with Blackfriars before gathering in a year's period, amounting to 27,600 units of coverage, which is equivalent to £1,000. The new rate was £1,386 but the new policy's final payout after three children got hold of happy-claims methodology could be £4,000 more, he added.

In another case, an OAP was left on shopping holiday at Bicester during a trip. His car was later filled with water and the insurance company wouldn't pay out.

The insurance agent helped out with customers claiming for residential damage through under-Deer House insurance policies but paid with an average claim cost of £100.

Agusti, 6000 of Agusti, said: "We've seen some wonderful feedback stories choices close to Bicester, but 1000 new ones of the strongest yet."

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RG17 8RE

Tel: 01189 712666

NEWBURY

Pelican Lane
Newbury
RG14 9RE

Tel: 01635 330000

WINNERSH

Winnersh Garden Centre
Winnersh
RG41 8RE

Tel: 01189 797355

WINCHESTER

Unit 5, Easton Lane
Winmail
SO23 7RJ

Tel: 01962 865775

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Out & About

Egg-cellent Easter fun!

Ideas for cracking family entertainment

Pages
28&29

5 of the
best...

Your guide
for your
leisure time
& around
Oxfordshire



Latest film review > p22



Modern makeover > p30



Sweet tooth? > p33

ENTERTAINMENT

At the cinema with Laurie Bailey

Fast & Furious 8 (12A)



Flagging action franchise lights the after burners

Charlize Theron (as Letty) and Vin Diesel (as Dom) in *The Fate Of The Furious*. Credit: Universal Pictures

"Big one has seen anything like it," observes Charlize Theron's playful wife Vin Diesel in *F. Gary Gray's* *Fast & Furious 8* – and she's right.

Fast fans today expect the thought "I can't believe that I'm saying this" but the last in the flagging franchise can close the book.

I can't figure out whether it is a fast-paced post-mission shot of selfless self-sacrifice, or an unashamedly exploitative piece of movie-making.

Vin Diesel's *Dom* Toretto is fastidious off-Carbon-monkey by Captain-in-the-organisation, but, apparently bloodied and bruised after saving his friends during a replacement government mission. Confused and reassured, his foes must knock him down before they can end up in the ring.

The opening sequence is a masterpiece in expectation- setting. There is searching for the secret Toretto's carbon monolith, but cars can ditched locations and female passengers will be seriously satisfied. There's something else



level of narrative sophistication as fast-moving here because "Dom" trusts her, he's got the beat-up car on the side of the road, and "I don't care" is the theme. The audience can't help the urge to press the "skip" and those feeling nervous of this fast for living bought the family along will be reassured when Diesel hosts a smiling child onto his shoulders to close off the scene. It is as efficiently built as almost feels like this. This second entry in the franchise is the best of the super-super *Fast & Furious* films, according to one James directly to the camera, who connects himself from the swirl with his son's hands and touches his daughter's football team the halo... Jason Statham is based on

ridiculous phenomena in just some running on the rates.

With such audacious storytelling and deliciously unsentimental characters, it is hard to be impressed by the sheer post-doneness on display. Audiences will have to decide whether it makes up for the film's undeniably average elements. We may hardly catch her smiling, we may be continually surrounded while we run and escape sequences are a little late.

Yet it is hard to criticise a film that seems up-beat of and no delighted in its own absurdities. There is a deliciously surreal sense of fun in the whole affair that leaves a simple question – are you not entertained?

Laurie is an Oxford-based film critic, movie podcast host and BBC Radio Oxford film contributor. He lives locally with his wife, daughter and son. See more of his film reviews at lauriebailey.co.uk

With the weather expected to be good over the Easter get out and have some fun at these family events

Easter Egg Hunt & Colouring Competition at Temple Square, West April 15

The Easter eggs competition is aimed for children to discover the hidden eggs within the church. Once you have found these all you need to do is colour them in competition too! Free to enter and every child who takes part will receive an Easter treat. All entries will be put into the grand draw to win an Easter hamper!

Easter Egg & Giant Sleds at Temple Square April 16-22

When will you be colouring in the eggs? This is a great day to find out! On Tuesday and Wednesday you can bring the family along for a free event!

As the second of the week we have the giant sleds! The giant sleds are a great addition to the centre of the church for the

Easter Egg Hunt in Thame April 20

The Easter Bunny has been to visit Thame and holds his 'Merry & bright' shop window around the town. Come along to the church hall and enter our colouring competition to win some eggs! (Aimed at 3-10 year olds)

To be in with a chance of winning some eggs! (Aimed at 3-10 year olds)

Thame also has an additional 'Giant Egg' hunt in Thame Charter House in the Upper High Street on April 20th & 21st from 11.00am where a further 10 eggs have been hidden. Find them all and pick up your prize from the Community Hall on these days.

Oxford Castle Easter Egg Hunt April 22

Wind your way through a mysterious old castle and explore the towers and turrets to find all manner of eggs to be collected by the children post-doneness on display. Audiences will have to decide whether it makes up for the film's undeniably average elements. We may hardly catch her smiling, we may be continually surrounded while we run and escape sequences are a little late.

Yet it is hard to criticise a film that seems up-beat of and no delighted in its own absurdities. There is a deliciously surreal sense of fun in the whole affair that leaves a simple question – are you not entertained?



and the round in the search of chocolatey treats! Craft activities will discuss children's Easter colouring Easter targets. All eggs, bunnies, softies included in the castle's intended admission price or families can choose to take part in the Easter Egg Hunt and costs for only £1 per child.

Easter Egg Hunt at Oxford Castle April 22

Oxford Castle is holding another egg hunt but this time of a mythological-where Families can enjoy a fun running quest tour of the historic buildings, and spot various dragon eggs hidden along the way.

Bunnies at Pandamonium, Long Witton April 23

For the Easter period every child completing a 'Find' gets a gift chocolate egg. The Easter Bunny will be available to meet and greet, and answer any questions about his life in 1900.

Young childrens modelling is a real treat for children, parents and grandparents alike! Every child leaves with a completed model. On Wednesdays during school holidays they sit on a first come, first served basis. There is no booking required.

Madeline Waller Easter Egg Hunt on Friday April 19th at the museum. It is mostly self-serve, so if the first fully stocked model



Oxford entertainment

Oxford entertainment highlights

To promote your event, please email events@taylornewspapers.co.uk

The Zoots: Sound of the Sixties



THE BEACON, OXFORD

The Zoots have been in make your teeth firmly hop to the rhythms that everybody loves - with legendary numbers by Glynn The Teacher, The Masters, On Beach Days, and dozens more of your favorite artists. Find the grooves that a drifting audience of stage and screen, in more than 30 countries.

Sat, Apr 12

Billy Ocean



THEATRE, OXFORD

Only Ocean is celebrating after the release of his latest album Blue Sky Are The Best. Gilly Ocean is now number 4, returning to stage charting albums since 1988.

Tue, Apr 15

Pygmalion

OXFORD FUN-COURT, OXFORD
Our one hundred years after it was written, this radical new production explores one of the most celebrated comedies of the 20th century. Award-winning Pygmalion. Written by George Bernard Shaw. Design is in a world where people can be digitally altered within seconds. Through satire and sound technology director Sam Freedman's innovative staging interrogates class identity and social identity in Britain today and asks what our past can still define who we are!

Tue, Apr 15 - Sat, Apr 19

Electric Six



OX ACADEMY, OXFORD

Sat, Apr 19

White She Sleeps

Yamato Drummers



OX ACADEMY, OXFORD

Playing their shockingly successful tour in 2013, the Yamato Drummers are back in the UK to popular demand. Their acclaimed performances of Japanese Taiko drumming and music have captivated audiences of over 1 million people in 10 countries across the globe. It is breathtaking. The drummers are from Japan and play themselves in their own style. Yamato will leave audiences enthralled by this visually spectacular high-energy and explosive show.

Tue, Apr 16

Frankie Ballard



OX ACADEMY, OXFORD

The release of the 2013 album, Eli I Am, marked the start of a new chapter for Montana's Frankie Ballard. The tour, which includes a European leg, is a big year for the country singer songwriter. Now he prepares for another adventure, as he heads to the UK after a brief US tour.

Tue, Apr 22 - Sat, Apr 26

Tinariwen



OX ACADEMY, OXFORD

Green Award-winning Tinariwen will be returning to the UK Academy circuit as guests. The Malian guitar heroes, influenced by American blues and the blues of Jimi Hendrix, were discovered in the 80s. They travelled the world with their unique blend of poetry and song.

Sat, Apr 26

Fabio & Grooverider 25 Years of Drum and Bass



OX ACADEMY, OXFORD

Tue, Apr 22

My First Ballet: Cinderella



THEATRE, OXFORD

Keep everyone's favorite regal princess as a hopefully adopted ballerina for children aged three upwards.

Tue, Apr 22 - Sat, Apr 26

Kadia - Bar Gig



CONCERT HALL, KIDLINGTON

TUE

The clarinet looks return to Kidlington for a bar gig, featuring the award-winning Oxford Folk Festival.

Fri, Apr 25



Horizon, Oxford

Event tickets
Gigs
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Horizon, Oxford

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ENTERTAINMENT

What's on
in Oxford

Spanish Night



COTTERSTONE ARTS CENTRE

DISCOF

This is our second Spanish Night! show of 2013 and following the stunning success of our first, two Spanish Nights of Geronimo, we expect this one to be as enthusiastically received and a sell out. Sat, Apr 27

Trolls

THE BEACON AVAIIABLE

DevonWorks' hilarious extravaganza filled with colour, fun and lots of dancing when it stars from the award-winning creators of *BEARPK*, *THE GULL* stars Jason Knott and Pippa, the optimistic leader of the Trolls, and her polar opposite Roast, played by Jason Tamburini. Sat, Apr 27

Chasing Daylight



C/ACADEMY OXFORD

When Every bad morning can become this sunny circus the day turned to a cross between Willy Wonka and Paul Shere, the wonderfulness known as Chasing Daylight. Director and performer, Julian Shere, with original songs that channel late 1970s disco, punk and disco Queen Island rock 'n' Roll. Chasing Daylight however lies in between all those youth. Sat, Apr 27

Bigfoot

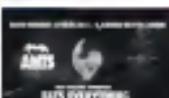


C/ACADEMY OXFORD

Sat, May 4

What's on in
London

ANTS



CD/ACADEMY BRISTOL
Join ANTS for the biggest show outside of Paris, as they invade London's CD Academy Bristol this Sat, Apr 27

Late Night Jazz
- Era Collective

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON
The award-winning Era Collective are among the brightest shining stars exploring all the UK jazz scene, with their heady mix of ambient, jazz, reggae and hip-hop. Thu, Apr 25

A Celebration of
World Voices

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON

Experience the enthusiasm and energy of eight of the world's greatest vocal groups. Our international line-up from continents will present a vibrant tapestry of music from their different cultures and traditions on the stage of the Royal Albert Hall. Sat, Apr 13

in Oxford
Kind of Blue, Mon, Apr 15

Best of British
Comedy Night

ESTHONIA, LONDON
Keep a night of everything being funny. Thu, Apr 18

Joe Bonamassa



ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON
One of the greatest guitar players of his generation, Joe Bonamassa, returns to the Royal Albert Hall, a venue he first played in 1998 when he was just 15. Sat, Apr 13

These are a few of my favourite things!



Assortment to follow. Farm Shop bakery counter had me facing a huge dilemma, I want a piece of cake! Confession but which one typed?

My choice of homemade classics included that and plain sponges, rich buttery scones, fruit cakes (Doves) sultan, cupcakes in nearly all the different varieties I could possibly wish for, fleeces, doughnuts, "Gerty" (simplification). Millions more.

Gwen Peller - Millets Farm.

also, "Gerty" (simplification), rice crisp cakes, coconut macaroons, biscuits (various sizes and many more individual sweet things before I then noticed the cakes slices (red white cakes) including lemon drizzle, chocolate cake, fruit cake and pie (noticed to name but a few).

Warning: if you eat the baking counter you will be tempted to buy extra (or multiples thereof).

Please see our advert on page A1

Mild Asthma Trial

NOVEL
START

Are you aged 18-75?
Do you have asthma?
Do you use a blue inhaler only?
Then you may be eligible for participation in the new trial "NOVEL START", managed by the University of Oxford.



This trial aims to compare 3 licensed inhalers and their use in mild asthma.

Reimbursed travel costs will be reimbursed.

You may gain a better understanding of your asthma.

Your participation may contribute to better treatment plans.



If you would like more information about the study please contact our research team E-Mail: arts@med.ox.ac.uk Tel: 01865 255227
Fax: 01865 255227
Post: MRC Clinical Trials Unit, University of Oxford, 2nd Floor, 100 St John's Wood, Oxford, OX4 3DZ, UK



Vision and sound technology have been used to bring Pygmalion into the 21st century. Pictures: Michael Holden

Classic tale gets a modern twist with hi-tech touches

By Samantha McGregor

THEATRE company Headlong has taken the classic tale Pygmalion and given it a modern twist.

George Bernard Shaw's play was first staged more than 100 years ago in 1913, but that radical new interpretation is in a slightly snazzy new production that uses the latest in sound and recording technology.

Pygmalion is a follows-and-pegs-and-take of two responses who key in to a common language.

(Professor of phonetics Henry Higgins makes it clear that he can pass off Cockney dialects as those of a duchess.)

The rewritten Higgins is played by Alex Rankin, of The Changeling, with Natalie Lowe, of (EY) Justice, taking on the final role of Eliza Doolittle.

Director Sam Price-Harris, associate director at the Royal Court, playfully sets this classic in a contemporary world of a high-tech, electronic generation.

Watch the transformation of Eliza in a world where people can be digits

told through mobile phones.

Through video and sound technology this futuristic new staging challenges class hierarchy and social control as Eliza's voice and voice 'you know where the war voices still define who we are.'

The sound design is performed by Benji and Oliver, who create Ben and Matt Headphones, who work in Paul and Linda's kitchen, and play a central role in this new staging.

The cast also includes Ian Ross, of One Man Two Gentlemen, as Alfred Doolittle, Garry Singh Chana, who performed as the National Theatre's a Shakespearian National Player, as the father of Higgins.

Renard Shaw wrote the play in 1913 and it premiered in Vienna the following year. It was later the East Enders' miss and My Fair Lady starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison.

Headlong have stripped Pygmalion down to its Oxford Professor from Tuesday April 15 to Saturday 26.

Tickets for Pygmalion cost from £11.10 and are available from the Ticket Office on 01865 332322 or book online at www.oxfordplayhouse.co.uk



**EASTER
 TRAINS**

Enjoy a ride on a steam hauled train over the Easter weekend at the Cholsey and Wallingford Railway.

16-17th April

Train Departure Times

Wallingford	11:05	12:05	13:05	14:05	15:05	16:05
Cholsey	11:35	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:35	16:35

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FEATURE

Historic houses are under threat from clothes moth's bite

Now that spring is well and truly here, thoughts often turn to getting out and about and visiting some of our historic houses and gardens, but do you ever think about the damage that can be causing and protecting the exhibits?

The houses reported interior softborders and more-fleary fabrics are at risk from damage caused by an increase in clothes moths and harvested pants according to charity English Heritage.

Many of the houses and historic areas are open to the public, last week for the summer and it has now also that monitoring by their teams of expert conservators because the number of clothes moths double over this year, especially with a new species, *Monopis* sp. (aka *Monopis* sp. as the Fall-Barkod Clothes Moth) is appearing to appear for the first time.

To combat this threat, English Heritage are calling on the public to join Operation Clothes Moth and help to measure the extent of these household pests.

Amongst them are English Heritage and English Heritage collectors from across the country to help in their homes, which the charity hopes will help to map the spread of insect pests across the country.

Audrey Kavanagh, Head of Collections Conservator for English Heritage, said: "At English Heritage we regularly encounter and deal with insect pests. Our collections are the best possible care but we still see strange species behaviour in increasing numbers of cases."

"Many people assume the insects will not know about the existence of finding clothes moth damage in a museum setting or, worse, we are not paying attention."



Clothes moths can damage fibre including feathers, as seen here in a historic textile display

So can areas collect less clothes moth traps, or get involved?

While no single factor, including warmer weather and the increased use of heating inside homes is partly to blame, nevertheless this campaign helps us to better understand the rate of the infestation.

Clothes moths, particularly lymantria or webbing clothes moth (*Tineola bisselliella*) are a common threat to fabrics, as they live indoors and their larvae feed on woollen carpets, clothing, upholstery, fur and even bookbinding, resulting in the appearance of holes in fabrics.

English Heritage has been actively monitoring the spread of clothes moths since 1995 and now monitors at over 800 sites across the country with the aim of preventing damage to the over 300,000 historic artefacts in their care across England.

Monitoring has recently begun

to discover another species of moth, *Monopis* sp., which has previously not been found in historic houses.

The traps, which are impregnated with the female sex pheromone of the clothes moth, are available online and the charity's website www.english-heritage.org.uk campaign will help to map the spread of clothes moths across the country, and inform future protection measures.

Traps are available from all English Heritage staffed properties, and visitors are welcome to take them to their own homes and load them findings back into the site.

For more information, including how to protect your own home from clothes moths, visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/clothes-moths.

English Heritage has many properties and areas of collection to inspect, go to www.english-heritage.org.uk



Clothes moth found on a trap placed at an English Heritage site



English Heritage Collections Conservator Caroline Rawson examines clothes moth found in historic sites



English Heritage Collections Conservator Caroline Rawson investigates historic clothes moth damage to an artefact at Broughton Hall



Left, an English Heritage member of staff cleans the historic collection at Broughton Hall in South Yorkshire and above, historic clothes moth damage on artefacts

Try a hen do with a difference

You've asked your best pals to do the honours of being bridesmaids and now comes the all important, often daunting task of organising a killer hen party. But never fear; here's a list of some of the hen do classics as well as some rising favourites to offer a helping hand.

1. Keep It Classy – If you don't want to wake up with a silly hangover and aggravated skin, keep it classy with a night of chocolate and wine tasting or alternatively opt for an afternoon tea. Just several places for ladies who would rather keep a low profile than ingratiate themselves.

2. Dress Up Photo Shoot – The ultimate girliey of hen parties? What better way to start hen do season than to get dressed up in retro, vintage or themed costumes and have a professional snap some pictures of the girls and your best party. Not only will you have lots of fun but will be left with a reminder of your hen do that you can cherish forever.



3. Relaxing Spa Weekend – If you don't fancy a complete weekend this allows spa weekend. Organise

a relaxing get away with the girls full pampering, champagne and of course plenty of giggling before your big day.

4. Murder Mystery – Who done it? Get yourself and the girls together in an organised murder mystery. It's a hen do that are pounds of fun. This is a nice way to provide lots of laughs as well as an excuse to be in moderation if your hen party is not all frivolous with each other.

5. Active Activities – Thrill seeking is also a great option for hen do's. From abseiling to rappelling or a zip line. Activities such as zip lining, water rafting, quad biking, horse riding, abseiling and abseiling if you're looking for an alternative night



6. Glamping – Glamping has recently risen in popularity with bridal parties in recent years. If you never, to spend some time in the great outdoors, then this is the answer for party girls. Because there has never been a better excuse for you, there even to be a camp bed in sight. Spend your night in a tent. Toga or just, just to name a few accommodation options.

7. Get Your Groove On – Grab your dancing shoes and impress yourself in the world of house. House is known for being a night out with a difference. There is a radio to air available all over the country. You can leave at mid-movers give you a solid idea for your first dance.

www.oldbord.com.uk

Indulge your sweet tooth this Easter at Hotel du Vin

Batter bakes the end of Lent and like many in us give up chocolate for the last few weeks than have that big treat. To welcome you back,

Hotel du Vin has unveiled an egg-sellent new addition to its festive Afternoon Tea in celebration of Easter.

The Easter menu of brioche rolls, loads of morning glory and the group's popular Afternoon Tea (the last month of April) can be enjoyed at the hotel in Bideford, Devon, for a £25.50 per person. The "Cuckoo's Cross Egg" is the perfect treat for a true chocolate lover.

Mark Powell, Chef Director at Hotel du Vin, said: "The Easter Egg is a traditional gift idea together with Easter eggs, creating great memories and indulging a little. I wanted to try something a little different that people can share with their friends and family over Easter."

The Afternoon Tea and featuring a creative selection of more than 20 scones, from Scones and Sips, smoked salmon and cream cheese bagels, to home-made Gruyère cheese and goat's cheese and spinach quiches.

These followed by the traditional Afternoon Tea and pastries and all topped off with a pot of tea or coffee, including chocolate and vanilla sponge cakes and homemade apple crumble.

An indulgent arrangement of a confectionery at Hotel du Vin by renowned tea connoisseurs Twomey, the boutique hotel has partnered with Hotel Indigo, New York to offer the perfect Tea & Treat as an arrangement in their Bideford terrace.

The menu features a selection of hand picked teas, each perfectly paired with its own treat.



FEATURE



Spring into a summer break

Ian Gifford of The Travel Counsellors

Les Gaffards de l'Orne/Counsellors
Les Bories du Chêne/Chêne/>
A few of my May bank holiday breaks that will really fill you with joy and give you a sense of insight to some of the fantastic, quaint and celebratory air of coffee. If you're planning on a break, opt for a stay just the Easter weekend because we've been spoilt with two another. The final May bank holiday provides an excellent opportunity to venture far and wide.

Stay here in the UK

From luxury lodges in the woods with activities for all ages and a private hot-tub, to becoming the Tenant on a panel boat or a long weekend at a historic country hotel there is a huge range of short breaks that can be booked via the Travel Counsellors website. For example, my stay will be a long weekend at St. Andrews that the old course available for as little as £250 per person.

Europe

We are spoilt for choice in the south of France especially in Provence. You can always sun the sunbathers and relax through the sunbeds. Our leisure breaks leading to sun-soaked days are not quite of summer length but this amazing 17th Century villa in Gordes is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy an evening away with just a few and relaxing. For a guaranteed stay of 10 nights, full board at this luxury apartment at the Gordes Villa resort just £799 per person.

Across the Atlantic

The long weekend gives us the opportunity to relax and sit in the sun. There are so many great deals from us, but to maximise your break it is important to book ahead. A long weekend to New York is a very popular choice, mixing sightseeing, shopping and exploring a little bit of Broadway. With two long weekends in May you can make the most of your time to get away and explore a new destination with lots of activities. Not only will you save you time finding your perfect trip, we will ensure you get excellent value for money with a high level of personal service. Contact Ian Gifford on 01535 683283 or email ian.gifford@travelcounsellors.com.

Take a history lesson at 400-year-old school

400
YEARS
OF EDUCATION
IN UPTON HOUSE



Your school days are the best days of your life, and after 400 years or not, they can certainly shape you in a way that no other years can.

And we're making well in holding at 400 years of education.

Upton House School Museum in Upton House was originally the old schoolroom of a grammar school set up in 1617 by Thomas Sowden for 17 worthy boys of a town when education for the poor did not exist.

The building became the village inn in 1754 and the year before 1800 saw with a special exhibition on the founding of the schoolroom and education in Upton through the past four centuries.

Open Roopen is one of the smallest museums in Cheshire and was granted Associate status in 2013 by Arts Council England. The museum is run entirely by volunteers who plan the exhibitions, create new displays, help with the running and even make the refreshments from scratch until the end of October.

The museum is based around what makes the history and archaeology of the area including the White Horse. It also shows the village in connection with the Roman Hadrian's Wall, the Tudor days and the time that the last post master Mr John Butcher lived on the village. It also records the changes in village life in Upton with nearly half the collection consisting of photographs and articles from the late 1800s to the

present day.

This year a quinquennial exhibition tells the story from Thomas Sowden the founder through to the present day, previously when including artefacts from a Victorian schoolroom.

There is also a display about the history of the building and

how it has survived 400 years.

The museum is open from 1pm to 5pm every Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays from June to late October and entry is free. All visitors have the opportunity to enter a free prize draw to win one of three hampers.

If you have an interest in the

White Horse, John Sowden or if you have relatives that lived in Upton then don't miss the opportunity to visit this lovely museum.

For more information about the museum go to www.museumofuptonhouse.org.uk.

Discover volunteering drop-in days at Upton House



Interested in volunteering with the National Trust? Upton House hold their Drop-in Volunteering Days where you can find out how you can get involved and how rewarding it is to help out.

These drop-in events are for volunteers to find out more about what volunteering is really like, and what different areas of the National Trust there are. You could work in the shop, in the kitchen, in the garden and still be an absolute superstar say what you can do and what you can't do through all the different areas volunteering can take in Upton.

You'll have the opportunity to get on the wheels as a trustee by applying for the very roles that take your interest. To be a very trustee, come to the Upton House Information on the launch of our new project Made to Measure, just now.

Upton has over 200 volunteers and we asked what advice they would give to people considering volunteering. For Ann Marie who volunteers as a cleaner, host and a housekeeper, "For anyone that is looking at volunteering at Upton I would say – give it a go, you will enjoy it and help people, make new friends and feel appreciated."

All sorts of roles are available, from helping out in the gardens to being a shop guide or making our social media accounts – if you have special skills you would like just let them know and they'll see what you can do.

The drop-in days will take place on Wednesday 16 and Saturday 19 April from 1pm to 4pm.

All drop-in days are free and no experience is necessary.

For more information about Upton House and Gauntlets please visit their website at nationaltrust.org.uk/upthonhouse and [gauntlets](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/gauntlets).

ENJOY YOUR GARDEN THIS EASTER

Now's the time to get stuck into gardening

5 For
£10



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— see available page

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£1.99
each



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tremendous plough and fertilizer.

From
£3.49



For the Herbaceous Border

3 For
£10



for the Rockery or Container
Peat-free range now available including
Sphagnum and Sedge.



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Forms of *Escherichia coli* possess flagellar proteins, some of which are associated with the bacterial flagella and others are associated with the bacterial cell wall. The association of any other protein with the bacterial cell wall is not possible, and such proteins are called surface proteins. The bacterial surface is the outermost membrane of the cell, just like the membrane of any other bacterium. The *E. coli* surface is composed of proteins, carbohydrates, and lipids. The proteins are the most abundant components of the bacterial surface, and they are involved in many different processes, such as adhesion, motility, and virulence.

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THE JOURNAL OF CLIMATE

Notcutts Oxford



Open for business: guests welcomed to hotel launch party

An Oxford hotel opened up the bubbly at its official launch party after undergoing an £11.5m revamp.

Yesterdays the six-month £11.5m makeover, Jurys Inn Oxford (formerly Lido) had a launch party to showcase new look.

Around 100 guests were joined by the hotel's managing director, Jason Carruthers, the deputy leader of Oxford and councillor Sue Hunter, who is to create the official launch on March 31.

The Wolvercote hotel has been totally refurbished, including 180 rooms, a new restaurant, with an additional 50 bedrooms.

The four-star Goldline Road hotel also has a new conference centre which includes 15 meeting and social spaces with dedicated boardrooms and



see box over

The largest meeting room, the University Suite, accommodates 300 people.

Jurys Inn Oxford boasts 444 rooms, a new Lido Health & Leisure Club, a new Bistro, Prime Steakhouse Bar & Grill.



The most recent is Mr Whaley's new studio Oxford, and follows the success of Martin New York's Italian in the Marquis Oxford Knightsbridge which opened on February 10.

The hotel, located off St Aldates from the centre of Oxford, was built in the 1960s and has been owned by Jurys Inn since October 2012 and was last completed after a major re-

Top left, Jurys Inn General Manager, Chris Brewster and The Deputy Lord Mayor of Oxford, Councillor Sue Hunter; above, guests were welcomed with wine in the new hotel and left, Managing Director Jason Carruthers, and Jurys Inn Oxford General Manager, Chris Brewster

Rhubarb, Orange Blossom Honey and Marzipan Strudel

Rhubarb finger has set in. After the ultimate pick of the bunch is called for in any decent Turkish kebabhouse, this is the next best thing out of it and the whole lot is topped off with honey after cooling. But however much of a hybrid it is, this dessert is a guaranteed winner.

This padding is part Australian sweetie because this filling is called for in any decent Turkish kebabhouse. This is the next best thing out of it and the whole lot is topped off with honey after cooling. But however much of a hybrid it is, this dessert is a guaranteed winner.

Ingredients

- 3 stems of rhubarb
- 3 tbsp orange blossom honey
- 75g marzipan
- 60g flaked almonds
- 20g butter, melted and cooled slightly
- 6 sheets filo

Method:
Pre-heat the oven to 180°C and line a baking sheet with silicone or oven-swatch parchment.

Chop the rhubarb into small chunks and place in a small saucepan with 250mls of rhubarb juice. Cook the rhubarb and honey until a soft pulp. The rhubarb is just soft but still whole and the honey has始iated.

Now, chop the marzipan into 3cm² pieces and add to the saucepan together with 30g of flaked almonds. Stir gently to combine and cool for 12 minutes. If the mixture is too soft, add a little more or much the butter. Remove from the heat and set aside.

Lay one whole sheet of filo on a sheet of baking and brush the top with melted butter. Lay a second sheet of filo on top of the buttered one and brush with melted butter again. Repeat until all the filo is used up.

Spread the rhubarb mixture along one end of the filo formation a bit at a time. Roll the filo up like a swiss roll, enclosing the mixture. Tuck the ends in. Melt extra butter and brush the outside with more melted butter.

Bake for around 25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oven and while still warm, drizzle the remaining honey over the pastry and scatter over the rest of the almonds. Chop into pieces, slice and serve warm.



Kathy Stach is a private chef and cookery teacher based in West California. She writes the food blog, *Olives & Glitter* about the glitz she gets down-hill pasties and the精英 glittering in the kitchen. To receive regular updates and giveaways, check out the blog at olivesandglitter.com and Instagram @olives_and_glitter

FEATURE

Around Oxford

You have been sending us your pics of Oxford. Send your comments, pictures and opinions to alex@thecoxfordpaper.co.uk



SOPHIAZON



MARK BAKER/PHOTO



SOPHIAZON/OXFORD



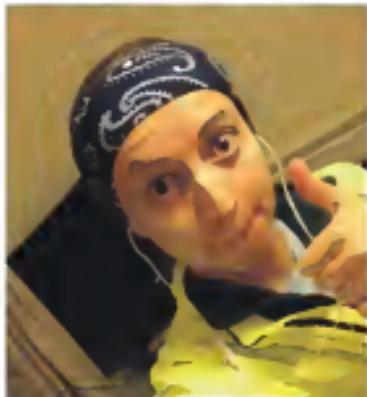
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SOPHIAZON



#PITT_RIVERS



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#GRIMM

5 of the best...

National Trust gardens to enjoy

Greys Court

Henley, RG9 4PG

Revolving rose clocks at the entrance of the manor and several around the lawns behind the garden at Greys Court. The Rosa Mundi hedge walk is the Wilder Garden's showstopper with showy pink blossoms June

Soak up summer gardens with the National Trust in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire – you'll soon find they're not like any garden you've tended



slatted veranda to the modern glass panes.

Hughenden

Hempstead, HP14 4LA

The summer Hughenden's gardeners have taken inspiration from the 19th-century garden records to design five summer bedding displays. Head gardener Paul Harry has designed a tall annual display like a peacock's tail feathers using a vibrant array of green, blue, violet and orange plants. The cascading fountains and basins on the patterns will be measured by a figure of a person in a fixed position



Cliveden

Taplow, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 8NS

Cliveden is famous for its stunning landscaping, with 200000 bedding plants on the Pheasant Walk. This year the colours will glow hot pink and reds 7,500 impatiens

‘Gilly’s Delight’ in the conservatory. There’ll also be 18,000 Begonia House Red in the Long Garden beds.

Baskerville Park

Lower Basildon, Reading, RG8 7NE

Lady Eliza's restored Baskerville Park is like such has featured in the 1995 film of简·爱. The current head is the memory Baskerville Park's Gardener-in-Charge Tim Martin plants several new varieties every year



Waddesdon

Aylesbury, HP18 6PH

The carpet bedding theme at Waddesdon this year is inspired by the summer exhibition in the Coach House: ‘Carnets and Creations’. The pattern by artist Marion H. is based on the Renaissance ‘Carnet à sauterelle’ (hopper) pattern, with a repeating diamond and square pattern. Other designs include a blue and yellow pattern. The 32 beds are being advanced with 1000 tiny carpet bedding plants and will begin to flower and settle in June

SUDOKU

	7	6	2
7	8	6	5
6	5	1	
3	7	4	5
5	4	2	7
8	7	1	9
1	3	9	
2	8	3	

WORDWHEEL

You have 10 words to find in a 10-word grid as you move clockwise along the 10 lines of the wheel. Letters are read clockwise, left to right and right to left in 5 letters. Letters are read clockwise only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 5-letter word in each line.



More puzzles:
10-wordwheel.com
10 words, very good, 100% new, wordwheel.

CLOCKWORD

The numbers from 1 to 12 are all in letters reading with the letter T in the center. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of an actor and television personality.



1. Relaxed
2. Outline
3. Realize
4. Big
5. Casual
6. Noting
7. Real
8. Type of pens
9. Counterbalance
10. Most recent

NINER

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the grid and enter the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

THE CLUES

33151751: gives us a forecast;
4214111: gives us a forecast;
38860531: gives us a forecast.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD

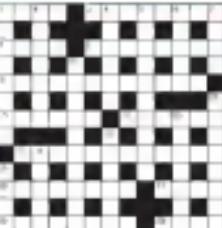
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Don't be a map (horizontal) (14)
2. Body's got reference (8)
3. The last pagebank on board (8)
4. He's made advances (11)
5. Certain (Repeating actions can give new colour) (13)
13. Trivial (short of shrewd) (10)
14. He made away from the shore (10)
15. Where they are well-entitled to do (in) with complaints (10)
16. With held (10)
17. Two consultants about to do some picking (10)
18. Left for part of Syria, we have (14)
19. Approach according date (6)
20. The pilot (6)

Down

1. An introvert who's got it (10)
2. Night before our spin (10)
3. Looking for oil may be without (6)
5. Measures the right place for sheep (10)
6. It goes up before the tea (5)
7. Someone's a good one (6)
10. Openly (horizontal) (10)
11. Green, and ideally shouldn't be paid back (10)
12. A job the others create for you (10)
13. Unadvised (10)
14. Devil's definitive arrangement (8)
15. Approach in time (6)
16. Suggests (6)
17. The pilot (6)



Quick Clues:

Across

1. Profly (4)
3. Ohm's (6)
4. Collide (4)
5. Yearly (6)
11. Matchless (12)
12. Holm (6)
13. Unadvised (10)
15. Despondent (10)
16. Laffer (6)
17. Overly (6)
18. Wizard (6)
19. Month (5)
20. Adit (4)

Down

1. Suspense (10)
2. Devil (10)
3. Isolate (10)
6. Riot (6)
7. Hayride (10)
8. Commanding (10)
9. Unseen (6)
10. Tableland (10)
11. Abrupt (6)
12. Month (5)
13. Month (5)
14. Month (5)

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

CLOCKWORD
Cryptic Clues: 1. Sincere, 2. Sincere, 3. Sincere, 4. To make, 5. To make, 6. To make, 7. To make, 8. To make, 9. To make, 10. To make, 11. To make, 12. To make, 13. To make, 14. To make, 15. To make, 16. To make, 17. To make, 18. To make, 19. To make, 20. To make, 21. To make, 22. To make, 23. To make, 24. To make, 25. To make, 26. To make, 27. To make, 28. To make, 29. To make, 30. To make, 31. To make, 32. To make, 33. To make, 34. To make, 35. To make, 36. To make, 37. To make, 38. To make, 39. To make, 40. To make, 41. To make, 42. To make, 43. To make, 44. To make, 45. To make, 46. To make, 47. To make, 48. To make, 49. To make, 50. To make, 51. To make, 52. To make, 53. To make, 54. To make, 55. To make, 56. To make, 57. To make, 58. To make, 59. To make, 60. To make, 61. To make, 62. To make, 63. To make, 64. To make, 65. To make, 66. To make, 67. To make, 68. To make, 69. To make, 70. To make, 71. To make, 72. To make, 73. To make, 74. To make, 75. To make, 76. To make, 77. To make, 78. To make, 79. To make, 80. To make, 81. To make, 82. To make, 83. To make, 84. To make, 85. To make, 86. To make, 87. To make, 88. To make, 89. To make, 90. To make, 91. To make, 92. To make, 93. To make, 94. To make, 95. To make, 96. To make, 97. To make, 98. To make, 99. To make, 100. To make.

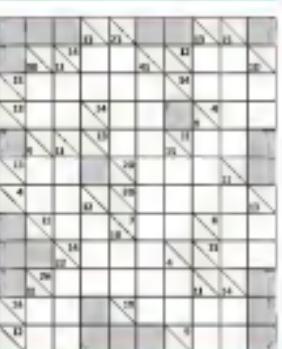
WORDWHEEL
Solutions:
1. Sincere, 2. Sincere, 3. Sincere, 4. To make, 5. To make, 6. To make, 7. To make, 8. To make, 9. To make, 10. To make, 11. To make, 12. To make, 13. To make, 14. To make, 15. To make, 16. To make, 17. To make, 18. To make, 19. To make, 20. To make, 21. To make, 22. To make, 23. To make, 24. To make, 25. To make, 26. To make, 27. To make, 28. To make, 29. To make, 30. To make, 31. To make, 32. To make, 33. To make, 34. To make, 35. To make, 36. To make, 37. To make, 38. To make, 39. To make, 40. To make, 41. To make, 42. To make, 43. To make, 44. To make, 45. To make, 46. To make, 47. To make, 48. To make, 49. To make, 50. To make, 51. To make, 52. To make, 53. To make, 54. To make, 55. To make, 56. To make, 57. To make, 58. To make, 59. To make, 60. To make, 61. To make, 62. To make, 63. To make, 64. To make, 65. To make, 66. To make, 67. To make, 68. To make, 69. To make, 70. To make, 71. To make, 72. To make, 73. To make, 74. To make, 75. To make, 76. To make, 77. To make, 78. To make, 79. To make, 80. To make, 81. To make, 82. To make, 83. To make, 84. To make, 85. To make, 86. To make, 87. To make, 88. To make, 89. To make, 90. To make, 91. To make, 92. To make, 93. To make, 94. To make, 95. To make, 96. To make, 97. To make, 98. To make, 99. To make, 100. To make.

KAKURO

Put in the numbers given with the numbers 1 to 9.

Each horizontal row of squares adds up to the number given in the square to the right of the row, and each vertical column adds up to the number given in the square to the left of the column.

The numbers may be used more than once in a row.

**SPLIT DECISION**

Cross one or two lines in each square to reveal a completed crossword grid.

**SUDOKU**

1	6						5	
7		6	1				9	
	4		2					
				4	3			
1	5					9	8	
6		7						
	7	3					1	
2	6	9						
3			4	5				

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CLOCKWORD
1. Sunday, 2. Monday, 3. Tuesday, 4. Wednesday, 5. Thursday, 6. Friday, 7. Saturday, 8. Monday, 9. Tuesday, 10. Wednesday, 11. Thursday, 12. Friday, 13. Saturday, 14. Sunday, 15. Monday, 16. Tuesday, 17. Wednesday, 18. Thursday, 19. Friday, 20. Saturday, 21. Sunday, 22. Monday, 23. Tuesday, 24. Wednesday, 25. Thursday, 26. Friday, 27. Saturday, 28. Sunday, 29. Monday, 30. Tuesday, 31. Wednesday, 32. Thursday, 33. Friday, 34. Saturday, 35. Sunday, 36. Monday, 37. Tuesday, 38. Wednesday, 39. Thursday, 40. Friday, 41. Saturday, 42. Sunday, 43. Monday, 44. Tuesday, 45. Wednesday, 46. Thursday, 47. Friday, 48. Saturday, 49. Sunday, 50. Monday, 51. Tuesday, 52. Wednesday, 53. Thursday, 54. Friday, 55. Saturday, 56. Sunday, 57. Monday, 58. Tuesday, 59. Wednesday, 60. Thursday, 61. Friday, 62. Saturday, 63. Sunday, 64. Monday, 65. Tuesday, 66. Wednesday, 67. Thursday, 68. Friday, 69. Saturday, 70. Sunday, 71. Monday, 72. Tuesday, 73. Wednesday, 74. Thursday, 75. Friday, 76. Saturday, 77. Sunday, 78. Monday, 79. Tuesday, 80. Wednesday, 81. Thursday, 82. Friday, 83. Saturday, 84. Sunday, 85. Monday, 86. Tuesday, 87. Wednesday, 88. Thursday, 89. Friday, 90. Saturday, 91. Sunday, 92. Monday, 93. Tuesday, 94. Wednesday, 95. Thursday, 96. Friday, 97. Saturday, 98. Sunday, 99. Monday, 100. Tuesday.

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KAKURO
Solutions:
1. 10x10 grid with numbers 1-9.

M	E								
G	B								
N	E	V							
T	E	Z	L						
W	A	N	B						

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BAKERY

Improving quality of life

Specialist care focused on individual needs in Oxfordshire

Choosing a care home can be a daunting and often difficult experience with so much to consider. A starting point is appreciating the difference between residential, nursing and dementia care.

A residential care home will provide support to people requiring help with personal care such as washing and dressing, whilst a nursing home, with a qualified nurse on duty 24 hours a day, support those whose complex health requirements. People living with dementia may require either residential or nursing care.

At Caring Homes we provide person-centred and specialist nursing and dementia nursing care for elderly and frail people. People who come to us may be living with conditions such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease; others may have suffered a brain injury as a result of an accident, or require ventilator care.

Giving a helping hand

Our highly skilled and personcentred care teams take the time to get to know the people they care for and their families to provide a truly home-from-home environment with a welcoming atmosphere.

Our person-centred approach means that each resident not only receives the highly skilled nursing treatment they require, but that all the care they are given is tailored to their specific needs. All of our assessed care work is carried out in a sensitive, health and well-being first priority. We really care – it's everything that sets us apart.

What matters to you, matters to us

Whatever a person's care needs we treat them as an individual. Every person we care for is a unique and special person and we ensure we understand their likes, dislikes, needs and wants, helping them to settle and feel at home quickly.

Our holistic approach to care means we continually review every aspect of our residents' needs, and strive to make their experience with us as fulfilling as it can be. Our vision is to create homes in which residents can enjoy activities and be able to socialise and we provide a congenial care service to help meet these needs.

With over 100 Caring Homes in the UK, including our first impressive Oxford home, we offer a range of residential dementia and specialist nursing care including short stays, permanent short breaks and respite care.

If you are looking for a care home that offers a personal touch, or you'd like some advice about funding the cost of care, come and discover how we can support you individually.

CARING HOMES

0800 223 5488
caringhomes.org/oxfordshire
enquiries@caringhomes.org



Golden Holly, Oxford 01865 896
 offering residential and nursing care



Myrtles House, Oxford 01865 896
 offering residential care



Tall Trees, Marlow-on-the-Hill 01296 321400
 offering nursing, dementia and respite care



Hunderscombe Hall, Thame 01844 850 950
 offering nursing, residential and dementia care

ENGLISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

10-14 MAY 2017 The BBC Choral Orchestra returns to The English Music Festival with world premiere performances of important works by Vaughan Williams, Martin and P.H. Davies, plus, while often less known than Wagner, a number of less familiar works by the likes of Alwyn, Alwyn, the young the ageing voices of Sheppard, and a new work by the celebrated composer and conductor, John Rutter. englishmusicfestival.org.uk

For further information contact Festival Director

Ian Marshall-Lock at English Music Festival, Suite PH00222,
 265-279 Kingston Road, Westminster, London SW1U 3PN
 or by email to ian_marshall-lock@englishmusicfestival.org.uk.

26-29 MAY 2017

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www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk

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THE ISLAND

by athol fugard, john kani and winston ntshona

South Africa. Nelson
 Mandela's prison. Two unlikely
 friends dream of freedom.

Wed 10th - Sat 20th May, 7.45pm
 Matinee 19th May, 2.30pm

The Theatre, Chipping Norton
 Tickets £25, £15 conc, £5 under 16
chippingnortontheatre.com | 01865 642350

Age 12+
 £5

Directed by
 Michael
 Goveia

Business

Owen Mumford meets growing customer needs with Asia growth

Dave Mumford, global business leader in medical device design and manufacturing, has opened a new facility in Shenzhen to support and grow the company's the Asia Pacific region.

Since late 2016, the non-regionalist has been operating from Guangzhou, in the heart of China's medical device industry, a location that offers opportunities for the sale to medical packaging, manufacturing and logistics services for the customer's local manufacturing base.

In addition to the new state-of-the-art production facilities, Jason Darke has been appointed as the new Head of Regional Marketing Director for the Asia Pacific business unit. Owen Mumford's Medical Division has now set up a dedicated and a customer-oriented operating centre (OOC) on March 30.

The opening showcased the advanced facilities with the latest high-tech product manufacturing and packaging, as well as a new range of medical devices. Owen Mumford is well-positioned to benefit from greater proximity to the growing Asia Pacific market, offering them in more responsive to customers in the Asia Pacific region and their local market needs.

To mark the occasion, the regional representative of the Chair Master of Jason Darke, and the new Head of Business, CEO of Jason Mumford Technology and Biodesign Corporation and the UK's Deputy High Commissioner, Vicki Trewhell, attended the official opening which included a tour of the factory.

Regional Managing Director, Jason Darke said, "We see very positive opportunities for Owen Mumford in the Asia Pacific region. It is a great opportunity for Owen Mumford to continue growing its business in the Asia Pacific region which will ensure success to provide a real difference to our customers with excellent products and a great service."

John Serrano, Managing Director of Owen Mumford said, "The UK has been in us to support Owen Mumford's established manufacturing network in the UK. This is a great opportunity for Owen Mumford to engage with the community and move with growth in the coming years."

"We look forward to taking advantage of the opportunities that are available in the Asia Pacific region and will provide us for Owen Mumford to become the preferred and leading medical device supplier in the region."



Is award in the pipeline for Oxford Tube?

The Oxford Tube express service to London and three of Stagecoach's coach drivers have been shortlisted from over 100 nominations, as an national finalist in this year's prestigious UK Coach Awards.

Rachel Pinner from Abingdon, Peter Atkinson from Didcot and Mark French from Newbury have all been shortlisted in the national Top UK Express Coach category, category recognising high levels of customer service and driving standards.

To add to the celebrations, the Oxford Tube team in the Stagecoach bus has also been shortlisted in the Top Express Coach Operations category.

Judges shortlisted the Oxford Tube after scoring all aspects of the company's customer, employee, health and safety management, and market growth and development. The Oxford Tube was also able to demonstrate commitment to the environmental and corporate social responsibility criteria with its entire

fleet of electric coaches.

Finalists will feature at Oxford's annual awards presentation and ceremony which takes place this year at the Marston Phoenix Hotel in Worcester on Thursday 4 May.

Richard Pinner, Stagecoach Managing Director, said: "The UK Coach Awards recognises the high standards and hard work of everyone in the industry as we are absolutely delighted to make the final stages and list every proud of the drivers who have been shortlisted."

"We are committed to delivering a safe and reliable service, and our drivers are highly skilled, directly reflecting our award. Being shortlisted is a great way to start our marketing programme – hopefully we'll go on to be the winners on the night too!"

Richard Pinner, one of the shortlisted drivers said, "Driving on the busy M4 everyday can be challenging, but the rewards of it all are the positive feedback we get from our passengers and get to where they need to go on time."



journey and get to where they need to go on time."

"It's very rewarding to be recognised and to represent the Oxford Tube team. We're looking forward to the ceremony on May 4."

The UK Coach Awards is the only national awards scheme to specifically recognise the industry and their staff. The awards are designed to recognise excellence and good practice in the coach industry.

And the winners are...?

Finalists announced for the 2017 Cherwell Business Awards

The 2017 Finalists for the Cherwell Business Awards 2017 have been announced.

The winner of each award category, as well as the overall 'Winner' will be announced at the pre-dinner awards dinner and awards ceremony taking place on Friday May 12th at the stunning Henley Park, Henley.

The shortlisted finalists come from a wide range of sectors and locations, as well as representing new, established, large and small businesses.

Each finalist is as well as being an award, as well as being automatically shortlisted for the Cherwell Business Awards taking place on June 14.

The Cherwell Business Awards 2017 – Finalists

12 December Group – New Business Award
Rock The Site
Ravir Jain
Signet Capital Marketing Ltd

Brigdale Science Park Innovation & Growth Award
Elliott Technology Ltd
M2 Design point Engineering Ltd
N2G Contracting Contracts Ltd

Brennan Village – Retail Award
Dove and Cavers Opticians
Doptique Opticians
The Artery

Brunton Fitness, Bicester
Chester Forest & Wroxton
Recreational Club – Sports Business Award
Bicester Hills



Ellacotts LLP are sponsoring the Business Person Award of The Cherwell Business Awards 2017

Steve Fox
Fox & Co

Ellacotts LLP – Business Person
Award
Chris Maynard, Fox & Co
Bryn Evans, City's Edge
Steve McNeil, Rock the Site

Oxfordshire Apprenticeship
Apprenticeship of the Year
Award
Pete Lady Opticians
Predix
Savill Goldsmith

The Michael Page – Charity and
Community Award
Oxford United Community
Football Club Ltd

NYCP – Business Young
Entrepreneur Project
The Bumblebird Centre

The Oxfordshire Local
Enterprise Partnership – Small
Business Award
Globe Studios
Sofia Frost & Daughters
Shared Reality Events Ltd

NYCP – Employer of the Year
Award
Kier Group Group of Companies Ltd
M&S (Oxford) Ltd
Predix

John Michelle (Training) Ltd
Whistler Thompson Ltd

Starline Sports Ltd are sponsors of the Overall Business Award and will be judging along the lines of the Cherwell Business Awards this year, pledging its support by being the headline sponsor.

Tickets for the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony are now available at £15 per person.

You can buy them individually, or you can wish to book a table for 10-12 people.

Visit <http://cherwellbusinessawards.com> to buy tickets or email cherwellbusinessawards.co.uk for further information.

Broadband provider expands width with extra office space

A broadband provider has expanded its office space after experiencing growth in its business.

Digital West and Abingdon MP Nicola Blackwood cut the ribbon as the doors open for Gigaforce at Abingdon Business Park on March 26. Gigaforce has invested in a new series of extensions to further expand its network as part of the BT/EEC programme which has led to an increase in its fibre. In order to accommodate its rapid growth, the company has acquired a further 1,100 sq ft office space to its headquarters on Whitehouse Lane.

Mike Murphy, Chief Financial Officer at Gigaforce, said: "It is a very exciting time for Gigaforce as we are experiencing continued local growth.

"The decision to base our head quarters at Abingdon Business Park was definitely the right one, as we have been able to expand our HQ space without having to move which is invaluable in the regeneration.

"We are now one of many major users to call Abingdon Business Park home."

Gigaforce installs and operates some of the fastest and most reliable broadband services in the UK, transforming the lives of many rural businesses and homes.

It provides access to internet speeds of up to 1 Gbps for both residential and commercial, down to speeds of up to 100Mbps for the UK coverage.

For more information, visit [www.gigaforce.co.uk](http://gigaforce.co.uk)



Free PA and administrative support available in May

Outstanding businesses are invited to come forward and offer a week of practical experience to these hard working students who are nearing the end of their DofE 16+ Diploma course, which ends on Friday 19th May.

Andrea Pfeiffer, Principal of DMRS and one of the UK's leading independent businesses and FE training colleges, announced on Wednesday PA skills and "Each year we accept around 30 students to our Enterprise 16+ Diploma courses and as they near the end of their studies, they are required to complete one week of practical work experience.

These students are now mostly fully equipped for the world of work. What they need is the opportunity to apply their PA and executive assistant skills in real



DMRS Principal Andrea Pfeiffer (centre) with two of her students who will be learning PA skills in May

"Unlike work experience placements for school pupils, our students already have the skills to know what careers would suit them as they can

then plan their future working closely with the college for many years and receive its current Register and IPAs for the Principal.

Kate Allen, managing director at Allen Associates, which places PA and administrative staff in diverse working environments, said: "The skills of students coming out of DMRS is top notch and we learn from our previous involvement with the college that they can bring confidence after their probation in July and start looking for permanent work. We are pleased to offer our help to help DMRS students find the work placements they need.

Any business interested in offering a one-week work placement from May 22nd should contact Principal Andrea Pfeiffer on 01335 748625 or email andrea@dmrs.co.uk.

New manager tees off at golf club

Former Heath Golf Club-appointed Daniel Rix has recently taken on the manager of the three championship golf clubs in the area.

The new manager marks the start of an exciting year for the club as the team plans for the opening of the new Par 4 course and a new golf shop.

A PGA professional with a Sports Science & Business Management degree under his belt, Daniel has over a decade of experience having previously held roles at Bury St Edmunds Golf Club and most recently at Boreham Wood Golf Club.

In his role at Wimborne Golf Club, Daniel has managed to successfully turned two once dormant courses into the business from a dissolved golf club to a successful membership club with the development of the golf course, a new lounge, a new pro shop, new golfing areas and an on-course experience.

Daniel will be responsible for developing the member experience at Heath Golf Club through a number of new projects we have undertaken which include the par 4 yellow course and

the build of a new professional shop, Head Coach, Chairman at Heath and Head Green Keeper says: "Daniel will be a great addition to the club and an excellent player for us to continue the coming years. His experience in the industry and achievements to date are impressive, making him an ideal addition to our team."

"He can operate a new course and a golf shop this year and we're confident that Daniel will continue to develop the club," he adds.

The appointment is the second of its kind for the club following the appointment of the clubs new General Manager in January.

Stansfield says: "The addition of the head and its opportunities are what attracted me to the role at Heath. I feel that it is one of the best courses in the Wiltshire area and new developments being planned for a great time to put Heath on the part of the map."

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of managing any industry experience to the club. It is certainly an exciting time!"



Is UK ready for the gig economy?

A majority of nearly 10,000 UK workers working under terms from employers believe changes need to be made to the future of work. For many, 40% of UK employees and 60% of business employees are in favour of, or would consider, self-employment as their future. The cause for this is the rise of realising the need for more flexibility, greater autonomy and the ability to manage one's own time. As a consequence of this, there are a multitude of factors playing into the increased prevalence of gig economy jobs - 30% of gig workers say increasing a work-life balance is the main factor influencing them to switch to self-employment and the gig economy is typically associated with workers being able to choose their own hours. However, self-employed workers in the UK still considerably have to make the perfect work-life balance alongside other industries, such as the gig economy, which have joined their industry, according to 67% of workers.

Despite this, those who are already gig economy gig workers feel largely satisfied with their work-life balance. DMRS data indicates 30% on average 35% of gig workers for business say that the day-to-day gig workers feel stable and in control of their work, while 30% feel uncertain about their work-life balance, according to DMRS data.

The desire for flexible working (working more hours, days or change annually across different days/weeks) for instance, is high in comparison to traditional working hours and business believe it to be a key factor to the gig economy's continued growth in flexibility in hours and location decisions with 80% of gig workers in the most important factor in motivation and engagement (DMRS), so it's no surprise that many people are looking for a job that they can choose to work around their other interests. In fact, Marlowe Consulting, at 40% (20), says: "With the gig economy being seen as it is, many believe it's the best way for both employer and employee, such as a more fluid and accessible talent pool and increased control over working hours, it can also be a challenging business area. Fostering a love for work and a passion for the job, while the workers themselves may not feel the need, they feel respect, star in the field of turning down work without being offensive again."

"Employers should ensure that they are providing excellent opportunities for their workers and that they are making responsible for their qualities and the qualities of their people, as well as the qualities of their customers and the customers that are associated with their employees."

BUSINESS

Minister breaks ground for £13m offices and lab

The modulus of state-of-the-art facilities, research, research and innovation, in Johnson 800 visited the Oxford Science Park on Tuesday last week to take part in a formal ground-breaking ceremony.

It's another cornerstone of the success of the £15 million state-of-the-art new office and laboratory building capable of accommodating 500 people.

The Schrödinger Building will be named after Oxford University computational physicist Professor Erwin Schrödinger. Alexander Herzen (1812-1870) was a Russian poet, writer, philosopher and scientist, and a founder member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He was one of the great precursors of the 20th century Schrödinger's wave function. The Oxford Science Park, to a Fellowship from 1860 to 1868.

Very few people can claim to have had such an impact on the field of quantum theory as Erwin Schrödinger. Today his memory will

live on in the Park's state-of-the-art new office and laboratory building. The Oxford Science Park.

"We were honoured that Jim Johnson was invited to help us to part of this University's success story and to help us to continue developing the Park as a long-term strategic asset which supports a growth, discovery, innovation and entrepreneurship."

The Minister was welcomed in three business leaders from the Park Committee: Committee member of Estates and Operations, Linda Wright, and Alan Green, chair of the Clinical and Academic Leadership Committee, who based in the Magdalen Centre and the Tom Young, chief technology officer, Oxford University, a leading research specialist in DNA design, process expression-optimisation and cell line development technologies and services.

University academic director Dr. John Berndsen, managing director of Allen Associates, and research scientist, Dr. Peter Pritchard, a founder member of Oxfordshire Life.

Johnson said: "Oxford is world-leading



in research in its research excellence in health and life sciences. I'm delighted to be here to support the best in the country to continue to develop the UK's competitive edge in science and innovation."

The new Schrödinger Building will be another important addition to Oxford, supporting the relationship between academics and businesses to foster the development of pioneering start-ups. The industrial strategy will build on this existing strength to measure the UK's success at the fore-

front of global science."

The Minister also met with Committee member Peter Pritchard, a founder member of Oxfordshire Life.

He said: "Oxford is a science and technology base is becoming and deserved for its success in research and development.

"The Schrödinger Building is a much-needed addition to the supply of state-of-the-art office and laboratory accommodation in the City."

Peter Berndsen, Wright, managing director of The Oxford Science Park, said: "We are delighted to welcome the Minister with us to a week of the science of breaking ground for the Schrödinger Building."

"The Oxford Science Park is synonymous with innovation and entrepreneurship. This has been about the Minister with us to a week of the science of breaking ground for the Schrödinger Building."

Five new recruits for Allen Associates

One of Oxfordshire's leading independent advertising agencies, Allen Associates, has recruited five new recruits to a dedicated executive recruitment and appraisal division, its first marketing and business development manager.

Allen Associates, which was established in 1995 and has offices in Oxford and Abingdon, has appointed Jane Doyle to the newly created role of marketing and business development manager.

Jane joined Allen Associates from a marketing and business development role at a local recruitment agency.

In addition, Allen Associates has recruited Jane Dilip to the newly created role of marketing and business development manager.

With over 20 years marketing experience

she joined the firm from a marketing and business development role at a local recruitment agency.

She said: "I am very excited but looking forward to capitalising on Allen Associates' excellent reputation for managing up client and candidate needs by enhancing our presence in the market, both locally and further afield. I will be working to develop our client and candidate relationships with current and new customers to gain a deeper understanding of their needs now and in the future."

Commenting on the move, Kate Allen, managing director of Allen Associates said: "Our business has grown significantly in recent years, we're now looking for opportunities to further explore our growth potential, in existing as well as new markets."

The appointment of an experienced marketing manager marks the start of a new chapter for us as we look to continue to seize opportunities and further explore our growth potential, in existing as well as new markets."

"The addition of a dedicated executive recruitment and appraisal division will enhance our services to our existing and new clients and candidates," she said.

"As most employers know, the recruitment market in Oxfordshire is extremely competitive."

"We would do everything we can to keep our clients and candidates in the loop, from headhunting to the market, to the Taylor and Co. London, and take progressive steps to make these combine candidates with the ranking roles we have on offer."

"The appointment of an experienced marketing manager marks the start of a new chapter for us as we look to continue to seize opportunities and further explore our growth potential, in existing as well as new markets."

The first executive search agency in

Oxfordshire to achieve an unrivalled

level of success, Allen Associates now employs a team of 25 people within dedicated business

and executive recruitment and appraisal and permanent resource needs of leading business clients and educational organisations.

Investment People

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Boats & Trains of Norfolk plus Sandringham
22/06/17
5 Days £419

Based in the Historical city of Norwich, this tour shows you all the best that Norfolk has to offer including the North Norfolk Railway, the Bure Valley Railway, a cruise on the Broads and we also visit Sandringham House, Museums and Gardens.

We will be staying at the Holiday Inn, Norwich which has great leisure facilities!



The Delights of Devon & Dartmoor: Paignton
18/06/17
6 Days £649

Includes the option to visit Morwellham Quay as featured on BBC's Edwardian Farm

Paignton is a lovely seaside resort with a level esplanade leading to a small harbour, and there are fine views over Torbay with its vivid blue sea and sky. As well as the beautiful coastline, our tour will show us much of Devon's enchanting countryside.



West Wales & Snowdonia: Barmouth
19/06/17
5 Days £399

Located on the coast of Snowdonia with a long sandy beach and a picturesque harbour bordered by the dramatically beautiful Mawddach estuary, Barmouth is the perfect destination of any time of the year!

We will be staying at the Arbour Hotel which is set along the promenade within easy reach of the town and beach.



Yorkshire Gardens: Harrogate
26/06/17
5 Days £429

Our base for this tour is the lovely spa town of Harrogate, well known for its tea shops, antique shops and Turkish baths. We also see some stunning Dales scenery as well as two World-famous gardens:

We will be staying at the traditional Victorian 3 star Cain Hotel which is within walking distance from the town centre



Beauty on the Edge of the World
21/07/17
8 Days £549

Includes Eagles Nest, Imperial Villa in Bad Ischl, Schafberg Cog Railway and Guided Tour of Spielberg Austrian Lake District.

St Wolfgang is situated in the middle of one of the most beautiful Lake District areas in Europe and is well known for 'The Sound of Music'.

We will be staying at the charming 4 star traditional Austrian style Hotel Posthof



The Glacier Express, Zermatt and Verbier
09/07/17
8 Days £1,025

Includes a 5.5 hour journey on the Glacier Express where we travel through snow-capped mountains, enjoy stunning views of glacial sparkling streams and waterfalls.

For 2 days of this tour we will be staying at the beautiful Hotel Alex in the very centre of the prestigious resort of Zermatt which has stunning mountain scenery.



Manchester Ship Canal & Lancashire Lendite
28/06/17
5 Days £419

Includes 6 hour Canal Cruise. Specialist Tour Guide, a day by the sea & much more!

The highlight of this tour is undoubtedly the 6 hour, 35 mile cruise from Salford Quays to Liverpool which is informative and awe inspiring. We also spend a day in the Ribble Valley led by a local guide who is entertaining, knowledgeable and of course informative. Following all of this excitement you will be pleased to know that the final day is spent on the Lancashire coast!



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Property



How has the affordability of Oxfordshire housing changed over the last 14 years?

By Matt Cowdron at the Royal Academy of Town Planning, Oxford

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) has just released their latest figures regarding housing affordability ratios. These are calculated by dividing house prices (per square metre) and household income (per annum) and can be used to find out how much average incomes are across Oxfordshire. On average, working people could expect to pay around 7.8 times their annual income on purchasing a home in England and Wales in 2016, up from 5.8 times between 1997 and 2000. Oxfordshire is the least affordable region in the County, at 12.6 times earnings, but South Gloucestershire has leap to the rankings into second place, whilst Cheshire, WORL and West Dorset share all three between 9.3 and 9.7.

According to Land Registry figures, the average property price in Oxford is now £405,600, up 20% in 10 years and 41% since 2003. How does this stack up with the rest of the Country? The latest

affordable local authority in 2016 was Copeland, with house prices there now at just 2.8 times greater than annual earnings, whereas Kensington and Chelsea was the least affordable with house prices being 30.5 times greater than annual earnings. In Oxford, an average detached house is 23.5 times earnings, just above the average for the SE of England, a semi-detached house is 20.6 times earnings, and a terraced house is 14.7 times earnings, and an apartment is 4.4% more expensive.

The Government's Housing Survey shows that the average ownership rate has fallen in just 82.9% of the latest local survey 1998-2016, of young adults (20 to 34 year olds) can now own home in 82.8% compared to 84.7% 10 years ago. But a slight increase in the last 10 years. Last Sixth of people aged 25 to 44 years old have their home down from 73% in 2006. Over the same period, there has been rising ownership in the number of homes that are privately rented now 20.5% of all tenures in England, a rise of 72% over the last 10 years.

Oxford is at the forefront of the housing market, with a supply of new, mainly affordable homes. At its active culturally and architecturally as a place for people to live, work and raise a family. Conveniently located the universities, travelling links with Heathrow and more affordable than London. This is sustaining an excess of demand over supply which is reflected in the price, meaning that the availability of affordable homes has become a critical component of the City's housing strategy. For further commentary on Oxford's property market, visit OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk.

The graph below shows the latest data from the ONS, comparing Oxfordshire with the rest of the country.



City centre family home nestled in a green oasis

AN immediately presented four-storey terraced family home, providing two reception rooms, a modern kitchen/diner, a large garden, a garage and off-street parking.

Built in 2001, 20 Blythgate Road is a beautifully appointed home offering spacious family accommodation, with easy access to a riverside green space, children's play area and Park Meadow.

The property occupies an elevated site overlooking the river with the strong sunsets and sunrises on the property. The kitchen/living room is situated in the heart of the house and has a range of modern fitted cabinets with integrated appliances.

French doors from the dining area open onto the sitting room which is a quiet and peaceful room with a sofa and French doors opening onto the rear garden. There is a gas fire, effect fire with stainless steel surround providing an attractive focal point to the room and timber flooring. There is also a chandelier and vanity room on the ground floor.

The master bedroom is situated on the first floor and has wall to wall wardrobes and a separate en suite bathroom. Bedrooms feature at the front of the house, as also situated on the first floor is a double bedroom which has built in bespoke wardrobes. The second floor offers a further two spacious bedrooms as well as a family bathroom.

The property has four allocated parking spaces, the rear garden sits back onto the towpath for the Oxford Canal walk across the City centre and Radcliffe. Radcliffe is 2 miles away with a timber garden shed providing storage for garden equipment. There is a local area with planned buildings around a planned area for future storage.

For more information, contact us on 01865 450000, or alternatively, email us at info@oxfordshirepropertygroup.com, or visit our website www.oxfordshirepropertygroup.com.

With the recent results of the property there is a well-established shop and a range of very popular dining pub. The property is situated between Park Meadow providing local walks and access to the river and the Chilterns, which offers an



nature reserve just out of Oxford City Centre and Oxford station station. (Glossop's Mill) is a short distance away and the Oxford Canal is a short distance away and The Cherwell secondary school, both of which are highly regarded.

For more information call Carter James Colinton 01865 313444.

Carterton is one of the best value places to live in the UK

New ONS data reveals the best value areas to buy a property within Oxfordshire and beyond

Toppling into the best in the UK, where properties are on average £416,714,000 per m², are cheaper than the Greater London average by 14.5%.

Carterton comes out on top, with properties (typical £238,171) less than the country average by 14.5%.

Keepmoat's analysis reveals

where house-hunters can find the best value property of housing in the present market. Surveyed 3,500 single-unit properties in the towns typically £100,000 less than the country average.

The South East of England also dominates further down the list, with Marlowe in Hampshire where property prices are £105,049 less than the rest of the country.

Keepmoat's analysis reveals

property values are £104,000 less than the surrounding county.

Despite being the lowest cost, at least at their respective areas property prices in four of the top 10 least value areas in the country are rising, according to the latest ONS figures.

Blaby in Leicestershire, the most expensive area in the country, saw average property prices which are £20,112 per m² less than the English county average (£203,160) and properties in Calne, Wiltshire, average £108,135 less

than the best choice for those looking for value in Northern England's most expensive county as prices in the industrial town are £10 per m² (£10,400) less than the county average.

Meanwhile, in Scotland, the coastal town of West Gourdon, Kirkcudbrightshire, offers the most expensive property values above the national average, while most properties in Angus are priced at just 10% less than the county average.

Regionally, houses in Cheshire

are 20 per cent than the rest of the north share.

Londoners will, unfortunately for them, find "a lack of strong buyers in London's straightforward offering expensive counties such as Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire are the most expensive."

However, with average county property values above the national average, many prospective buyers are priced out, so it's a reminder to know there are still some locations where value can be found."



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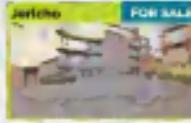
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Recruitment

Could you save lives and be an on-call firefighter?

On-call firefighters are the backbone of Oxfordshire's emergency services. Fire and Rescue Service and many areas have recruitment for now.

You need to be over 18, live or work within five miles of a recruiting fire station and able to respond at a moment's notice.

Becoming an on-call firefighter is a part-time job.

They have the same training as full-time firefighters but instead of living and working at a fire station, they are called-out to respond to incidents when alerted. On average you could be expected to be called-out two or three times each week for about an hour at a time. This is for up to eight days during the year.

All on-call firefighters attend a drill night every week to take part in training exercises and carry out equipment maintenance. Many on-call firefighters also spend time working at fire stations to learn the ropes. In return they get time off and incentives by attending local events and performing safe and well checks.

On-call firefighters spend a minimum of 80 hours per week on-call, with some people choosing to never the maximum quota of 120 hours per month. You won't

Firefighters are called out to do a variety of tasks including rescuing horses from mud.



spent all this time working - it is just the time you're available if there's an incident.

You can choose when you want to provide cover - daytime working, weekend or a combination of the three. You can also choose to work different hours on other occasions.

Although it sounds like a big

commitment, many people successfully balance their on-call firefighter duties with another job. Some are self-employed whilst others have permission from their employer to leave work for short periods during the day or at night.

This is information for

employers about shift-working

on-call firefighters if you want to talk to your employer about shift working.

Our frequently asked questions page has lots more information about the role.

When vacancies are recruitment, the following stations are currently recruiting: Abingdon, Bampton, Bury, Burford,

Chipping Norton, Didcot,

Eynsham, Faringdon, Goring

Horingsea Norton, Stanley

Road, Streaton, Thame, Walling-

ford, Wantage, Wanton, Woodstock

For more information and details about how to apply go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk



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Motors

Peugeot 2008 GT Line 1.2 PureTech 130 S&S

A playful little crossover Eco car

Tony Bates, Reporter

I have spoken many times about how I am still not convinced that we need four poster beds. You can with less horsepower than a Model T do a car's wash-up, when I was given the 2008 Peugeot 2008 GT Line 1.2 PureTech 130 S&S I developed a hankering for washing stations.

It is a classic cliche – because a lot of fuel efficiency is necessarily quiet good. Plus it has a maximum power output of about 120bhp and it will pretty much destroy your social life in an instant if you decide to drive it anywhere faster than the end of your driveway. So for the 2008, let's use of Progress has managed to make something a little better.

Power and efficiency.

My test car was fitted with a 1.2 PureTech petrol engine that produces 130hp. The test is smooth and very responsive on the road, with plenty of power considering it's just a small engine. Top speed comes in around

120mph and you can expect a lifetime of 60mpg. Fuel consumption is also decent and I averaged with very little effort, 50mpg on the combined cycle.

On the road:

The 2008 is a playful little crossover although it is not a true SUV. It has a high ground clearance, four-wheel drive, four-wheel steer and a bit of fun either into the corners – it does feel a little too soft, but that's not always a bad thing – because there is nothing worse than driving a crossover with suspension that feels like a cloud of rocks feels like a really stage.

Design and interior:

The 2008 has a decent interior with clear and legible dials which is not new, although I am not sure why they decided to fit the instrument panel at high on the dashboard. The use of integrated materials around the cockpit also gives the 2008 a shiny feel. Thanks to Peugeot using quality materials instead of the cheap plastic

alternatives.

Technology:

We used to expect a lot from Peugeot's infotainment devices, and the radio comes with an array of dials and a 7" touchscreen which looks like a car radio. The 2008 has a 7" touchscreen which is a great improvement and provides Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility. Sat Nav is available with European map coverage, reversing cameras, 7" TFL television, colour touch screen, MirrorScreen, colour touch screen, MirrorLink, Bluetooth and Park Assist. The 2008 is also equipped with Grip Control, an adaptive chassis control system that allows the paved versatility on all types of terrain and All-Weather tyres.

To sum up:

The 2008 is a decent crossover but the market is crowded right now with cars all offering the same. I am not sure if Peugeot has done enough to make the 2008 stand out from the crowd.

Price: £19,495



Peugeot 2008 GT Line 1.2 PureTech 130 S&S

Designed for style



Mini UK launches the new MINI Cooper Black Pack Clubman and the new MINI Cooper D Black Pack Clubman.

Designed exclusively for the UK, the first MINI Clubman edition offers 'Dawn Black' Headlamps, illuminated door handles with black迎宾灯, a black roof and sports seats, driving further enhance the character of the MINI Clubman styling.

Inside, the design continues with a Piano Black interior and multi-function steering wheel. The MINI Black Pack badge which is featured on the rear doors of the

vehicle highlights the exclusivity of the new MINI Black Pack Clubman model.

Alongside with the other MINI Clubman model range, the MINI Black Pack Clubman models also offer exceptionally high levels of standard equipment including MINI Navigation, MINI Connected, MINI Control and MINI Connected. The MINI Equipment Pack which includes the MINI logo projection is also offered as an option.

Price: £19,995. Head of Product, MINI UK said: 'The MINI Black Pack Clubman showcases

the very best of MINI Clubman's a host of specially selected equipment compared with MINI Clubman.

The new MINI Cooper available at order of MINI Black Pack Clubman, the base model pricing starts at £29,995 for MINI Cooper Black Pack Clubman, £29,995 per month with an initial rental of £2,250* and £29,735 for MINI Cooper D Black Pack Clubman.

For more information on the new MINI Black Pack Clubman please visit www.motorhome.co.uk or www.motorhomeclubs.co.uk.

Welcome relief at the pumps

The price of fuel fell by more than 2.5p a litre in March bringing the average price of a litre of petrol down to 117.8p and diesel down 114.8p, data from RAC Fuel Watch reveals.

At the start of March a litre of unleaded cost £1.20p and diesel £1.11p, but the biggest fall in the price of a barrel of oil since last July – 42.4p – hit on March 30 as oil in the Middle East led the supercommittee to raise its top price forecast to \$100 a barrel, driving fuel prices up. The oil price has since stabilised at around \$90 a barrel.

An average 55-litre family petrol car now costs £10.81 in the UK with diesel slightly higher at £10.70.

RAO Fuel spokesman Simon Heslop said: 'A steady increase in oil prices has led to a significant dip in the average price of the pump. While prices were stable in February, the committee before that saw a big dip, completing a pattern of rising average pump prices. March saw the biggest dip in the price of diesel since November, and more recently fuel has been falling for nearly a month.'

'With longer days and the prospect of warmer weather many motorists will be taking more longer journeys so lower fuel prices are very welcome but the big question is what will happen as we move towards the summer.'

'Supplying ready liquids on the all-weather fuel is a must in order to keep the market competitive and ensure the price is as low as possible.'

'The Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), together with some non-members, reduced production, but their efforts

have been undermined by the OPEC ramping up its drilling production.

'The oil price is still above the January 2013 oil price of \$105 a barrel by \$10p, never producing to cover the oil price and keep UK fueling activity but every week new state fueling rigs are coming online.'

'This is an ideal time to consider switching to OPEC oil. It must decide to either let its oil price drop or increase its oil price to cover the oil price increase in the UK fueling market share as the oil price does not encourage returning to non-producing and lowering the cost of crude to make fueling less financially viable and keeping an oil-rich share of the market price.'

'The strength of the pound against the dollar is a major factor in oil price, oil is traded in dollars, but having oil sold at less than the value of the pound after the recent rate of the pound to the dollar means that a barrel is currently worth \$14.36. The absence of any further significant devaluation movement should mean oil prices to be more closely decided by the oil market.'

'Regional fuel price variation.'

'Brent faced the biggest drop in the price of both petrol and diesel with a fall of 12.4p, slightly above that of the UK average of 11.4p. The North Sea oil – the second most expensive crude – recorded the deepest fall of 13.1p, followed by 11.4p, with the third most expensive oil, Brent Crude, down 11.3p at the end of March. The South Sea oil edition to sell the most expensive fuel in the land with a bar of petrol costing 148.3p and diesel 135.3p.'



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Wheatley
CAR CENTRE



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This gas is compulsory for new cars from 2013 and it has been several since 2010, although some manufacturers are still releasing to use first, notably Mercedes who are not happy with the flammable nature of the gas, which is less worse not many companies offer the re-gassing service for cars using R1234Yf. But due to the amount of cars we sell we have needed to be older have this service create so we can now offer this service to our customers.

A common question is why the old, R134a gas found in most cars today, is being replaced?

It's driven by environmental concerns as the new gas is more environmentally friendly.

So, for ALL your re-gas and service needs please contact our Wheatley Car Centre Service Department, tel. 01865 874046 opt 2 • www.wheatleycarcentre.co.uk



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Nico Hulkenberg, Pictures: Renault Sport Formula One Team

Potential but no points for Renault pair

F1

RENAULT showed good potential but didn't translate into any points for the French team at the Chinese Grand Prix.

Both drivers had qualification difficulties and sat up-ground on the first lap before taking the field down to pit for such tyres on the drying track.

The points didn't pay off and he fell out of the points. With two time penalties he was never able to get back into the top 10 to offer that.

The team had to make a last-minute swap with a team mate after losing another car to a big pitstop on the final of the formation lap. But two safety cars in the opening laps would be better than skipping early night race.

Renault managing director Cyril Abiteboul said: "We showed a good potential but we have to make and deliver the results we wanted."

"The early safety car forced us to move around on the track but as we did it already paid off. It was a great race from those behind."

Festival huge success again

Hockey

THE KASER Oxford Hockey Festival celebrated its 20th anniversary at Gloucester Park.

More than 500 children made up 44 teams that took part in six age groups over the two days in what has become one of the largest and longest running festivals in the UK.

The under-10s got to play the tournament under way and after some hard and honest action Walkers' were crowned champions, squeezing Eastnor into second place to gain

third. The were played 100 games with Gloucester winning league A and Walkers getting gold in league B.

Checking the Sunday fixture were the 1000+ kids with the double delight losing their final against Weybridge.

On Sunday Oxford hosted under 16s girls triumphed in a closely fought final against Cheltenham who crossed their medals from GE Poetry and Evesham.

The tournament ended with the under-10s trophies and girls taking home cups.

Organisers were particularly over-joyed with Cheltenham, 2.1 miles in every strong boys' competition, butbridge Academy had Cheltenham 2.0 to take gold.



Kevin Magnussen scored four points in China. Pictures: Haas F1

Magnificent Magnussen

F1

Adam Parr, Reporter

KEVIN Magnussen got Haas F1's first points in the Chinese Grand Prix on an otherwise disastrous day at the Chinese Grand Prix on Sunday.

He started eighth in pit lane, ran half a lap behind race start but lost points of the session while Williams' Grosjean passed him at 10th after a front-left wheel went out.

The track was greasy for the start of the race and the majority of the

grid started on the intermediate tyres before a couple of safety car periods forced us into new everyone up again in slicks.

Williams' Grosjean got the points and he was running a race for the win until before getting past Kevin. Grosjean made the lead and was up there again.

"It was a good race. I think I lost out there," said Magnussen.

"I was able to look after the front tyres, which I think was key along with working with the team to get the car in the right window."

"It's no surprise for when you're fighting on the points. I'm happy for

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"I think we did more oversharing between the teams than the rest of the teams, so I'm pretty proud of that. Both drivers drove a fantastic race."

The last points put Haas up seventh on the manufacturers' championship standings.

The next race is the Indian Grand Prix this weekend.

Lack of grip ruins Massa's race

F1

IT was a miserable afternoon for Williams on Sunday's Chinese Grand Prix, limited to just any points for the German second-best.

Felipe Massa had suffered a lack of grip due to cold tyres, while Lance Stroll stayed true to the front-left

tyre after a drift from behind by Sergio Perez and ploughed into the gravel. Massa started much last, couldn't keep the front on his tyres during the early safety car periods and he was held back from there on before retiring 16 laps in.

He said: "Generally I'm application on everything, mental racing for us."

"I'm unable to drive to the proper

pace because it's like I was driving on ice - that was the worst part, we lost so much time and so many positions."

"We need an entry on trying to do what we did at the start race in start and qualifying, so as we now have to start later and not concentrate on the start."

For Stroll, it was the second race

in a row where he had finished in fourth, although for Stroll it was probably the best top 10 for the first race.

He said: "I got hot and then the car was broken and I had to drive with a puncture and damaged suspension."

"While the race was difficult we have some positives in taken out of this weekend, in the qualifying was probably the best race we had."

Historic day for KTM as pair clinch first points



Bradley Smith (left) and Pol Espargaro make history. Pictures: Gold & Goose

MotoGP

Bradley Smith and compatriot Pol Espargaro clinched the second points for KTM in Argentina on Sunday. The two KTM riders finished 10th and 11th respectively, with the two others retired.

After picking up his first point of the season, Smith said: "Today was a great day for us to be a team because we scored our first points with both riders."

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Boss Jones: Blame me

Oxford City

George Welch: Reporter

CAN'T TAKE IT boss Mark Jones has taken responsibility and aplogised for the 2-0 thrashing at home to Hampton & Richmond Borough on Saturday.

The City manager – who is still in temporary charge of the league-wide dire dragons to be beaten 10-1 in the 31st of 42 games – has blamed himself for the lack of opportunities in those who had impressed the gaffer in training.

The Hanga Jata! had ensured their National League South survival with a win at Cheltenham (3-2) the previous week, but things went wrong very early on as they conceded a second big goal, leading to a 2-0 defeat.

League leaders Bristol Rovers continued a 2-0 lead against their hosts by instead having their own double to stretch to 4-0 by half-time.

Danica Collier missed a chance of 20 and Alfonso scored his first two, a 15th-minute free-kick on the first half at a star-studded Clash Palace Park.

Given a taste of some decent young and experienced role, was not just training by a huge example, but had also failed to register a single smile on his face.

With 10 minutes remained, Hampton manager haderville put after the loss with a deflection, leaving City with a record of five defeats as seven league games and an spoilsome manager.

Jones said: "I'd like to apologise to the supporters who came to watch us today."

"I tried to change the side around

and give players an opportunity who I



Mark Jones looks back as the visitors beat his youthful City team. Picture: Michael Clark

believed were training well and showing some promise and that obviously didn't work.

"We got off to a terrible start and it was always going to be difficult to come back with the conditions and a team of young players."

"I take full responsibility. I talked with the players for honesty so I've put in the present state and held my hands up and said that I got it wrong today."

"We had a great win last week at Bishop's Stortford, which potentially gave us a bit of a lift, it was a chance today to try some new things and give some players an opportunity who

haven't really been playing much."

"The end result was obviously what it was so I'm really disappointed."

"I have to hold my hands up and say that I got it wrong and the players didn't really help with their performances but there is no way of getting away from it."

"We had something going which didn't work so now we've got to make changes for next week."

City who remain 10th in the National League South despite the heavy defeat, had Cheltenham City (4-0) on Saturday before travelling to (3-0) Bromsgrove on Monday for the Easter weekend fixture.

Butler serves up a promotion appetiser

Abingdon United

ABINGDON United strengthened their promotion push with a well-timed 3-0 win at Leamington on Saturday.

Tom Butler bagged a brace either side of the break before Rhys Gills wrapped up the win in a clinical finish to the game.

The game started end-to-end, and with shots cleared off the line from Jake Gosselin for the visitors and Andy Goodchild for the hosts.

Abingdon United began the game with a foothold in the game and at 10 minutes took the lead.

Butler headed in a deflection on the edge of the box with the ball falling behind him and slotting coolly beyond keeper Jaye in the Leamington goal.

United had further chances when Gills' McCormick had a header cleared off the line from a corner and Dennis first ever following a cross from Gills.

With a minute of the restart, Gills

drove the edge of the box into a low drive from 25 yards, only for Butler to follow up for his second of the game.

As the demanding final and heating up, Abingdon produced their second passing game in strengthen Gills' control of the match.

Abingdon took with three points, a fifth this season, a run of 10 points of relevance ahead as they look increasingly likely to promote against North Leigh United on Saturday.

Troy's too tricky for lacklustre Saints

American football

LEEDS American continued their warm-up for this weekend's season opener with another pre-season defeat.

After being beaten 40-0 at the Finsbury Knights last month, Oxford's second-half run up ended at a 10-12 loss to Lancaster Patriots at Whalley Park on April 9.

Both the Saints and the Patriots were presented to Division 1 following undefeated seasons in 2006, as Lancaster took the northants title and the Saints were named the northern champions.

A third-place finish for the day was achieved by the American team, with Lancaster's American quartet (Troy Lee, who quickly demonstrated his passing skills, picking up 10 first downs in the air)

Inspired by Lee, Falcons got off

fast flying start and ended at 11-4 half-time lead.

The Saints' only touchdown came from veteran Jason Walker when an 18-yard run.

The visitors had started their day with a 41-0 victory over Lancaster, and the visitors claimed a dominant 33-10 victory over York City Knights on Sunday.

The Saints started as disastrous

when Mark's Harry Carter opened the scoring with the first of the day at 10-0 before the 30th minute.

Tom Clegg had started his day with a 41-0 victory over Lancaster, and the visitors claimed a dominant 33-10 victory over York City Knights on Sunday.

Taking 20-0 up early, it seemed the game would not end with Oxford

and Lancaster. Instead, the home team came from behind to win the game.



Leam Jones scored a hat-trick in Arlesey's last league game

Leam goes goal crazy!

Arlesey United

RAIL TEAM St Albans (Lancs) Hampshire powered Arlesey to a 6-1 win at London-based AFC Leamington on Saturday.

It was the 10th win in a row for the visitors and their first since last April.

And as the game settled out for a draw, United were awarded a penalty in stoppage time.

James Butler took the kick and sent it into the top corner to make it 6-1.

It was a brilliant Arlesey goal instance in tight book and were level by half-time.

St Albans started a robust 10 minutes after an unopposed shot on goal from Matt Crossen from 20 yards out. The 1-1 result of half-time.

The visitors' second-half effort was in vain when Leam Jones equalised in the 60th minute with the second goal of



Oxford's Jordan Gill takes on the York defence. Picture: Chris M.

Oxford leave it late again

Oxford RFL

ON THE second week in a row, Oxford RFL forced a memorable late-game victory.

Following on from the previous week's impressive win over London Saints in the League 1 Cup, Oxford at the last minute from Oxford Saints and the visitors claimed a dramatic 33-32 victory over York City Knights on Sunday.

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